

## Ephesians

### Lesson #3, Chapter 1:1-6

Before you begin this lesson, read through Chapter 1, then stop and pray, asking God to help you study diligently so that you can grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

1. According to verse 1, what do you learn about the author of this letter?
2. Create a short biographical sketch of Paul from what you know about Paul. Consider what you know about his name, his heritage, his calling, his personality, his physical appearance, and his goals. If you can't think of anything, try reading Acts 7:58; 8:1-3; 9:1-30; Acts 13-28 which detail Paul's ministry adventures or try skimming through these chapters; Gal. 1:11-2:10; Phil. 3:5-11.
3. Paul says he is an *apostle*. What does that mean? See Mark 3:14; Luke 6:13; Acts 1:21-22; 6:2-4; Rom. 1:5; 2 Tim. 1:11.
4. What did God reveal to Paul about God choosing him as an apostle? How did that knowledge affect Paul and why did he include that information in his letter? See Acts 9:15; 26:15-18; 1 Cor. 1:1; 2 Cor. 1:1; Eph. 1:1; Col. 1:1; 1 Tim. 1:11-14; 2 Tim. 1:1.
5. What do you learn about those to whom Paul is writing in verse 1?

6. How does the Bible define *saints*? See Rom. 1:7; 1 Cor. 1:2; 14:33; Eph. 1:1, 18; 2:19; 3:8, 18; 4:12; 5:3; 6:18.
  
7. According to the definition above, are you a *saint*? How do you know?
  
8. Summarize what you learn about Paul's interactions with the believer's in Ephesus. See Acts 18:19-22; 19:1-41; 20:13-38.
  
9. The word *faithful* means believing ones. What were the faithful ones believing in Christ for? See Eph. 2:8-9 for a hint.
  
10. Verse 2 contains Paul's customary greeting. Define the words *grace* [Strong's #5485] and *peace* [Strong's #1515]. Where do these things come from?
  
11. By giving a blessing of grace and peace to the believers what is Paul trying to convey?
  
12. In verses 3-14 (which is one sentence in the Greek!) Paul recounts the great works of God for us. He blesses God for the ways God has blessed us. What things has He done for us according to verses 3-6?

13. How many spiritual blessings has God blessed us with (verse 3)? Where are they located? What does that truth convey to you?
  
14. That He chose us to be His is an example of one of the many spiritual blessings God has given to us as seen in verse 4. When did He choose you?
  
15. God had a purpose in choosing you. What was it (verse 4)?
  
16. If God had not chosen you, would you ever be able to stand holy and blameless before Him? What do the following verses teach you about how that was possible: 2 Cor. 5:21; Eph. 5:27; Phil. 3:9; Titus 2:14?
  
17. Verse 5 also reveals that God predestined us to adoption as sons. How was that adoption accomplished? Why did God choose to adopt us (verses 4-5; KJV verse 5)?
  
18. Paul states that God chose us to be His children *to the praise of the glory of His grace*. What does it reveal about why God acted the way He did?
  
19. How did God extend His grace to us according to verse 6?

20. Look back over verses 3-6. List all the ways that you have contributed to your salvation.
21. What do these verses tell you about why God chose to act the way He did?
22. Complete the following statements as you consider what you have learned from Ephesians 1:1-6:
- a. God is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. God is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. I am \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. I can praise God for \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e. I am amazed to think about \_\_\_\_\_.

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing<sup>1</sup>

~Charles Wesley

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God,  
Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad  
The honors of Thy name.

Jesus! The name that charms our fears,  
That bids our sorrows cease,  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'Tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,  
He sets the prisoner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean,  
His blood availed for me.

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<sup>1</sup>Charles Wesley, "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing," *Hymns for the Family of God*. Ed. Fred Bock. (Nashville: Paragon Associates, Inc., 1976).