**STUDY OF THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS**

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[**Ephesians 1:1-2**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+1%3A1-2)

[**GREETING: THE CALL OF GOD, 1:1-2**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\GREETING:%20THE%20CALL%20OF%20GOD,%201:1-2)

[**1  God's call to Paul (v.1a-b)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\GREETING:%20THE%20CALL%20OF%20GOD,%201:1-2\1.%20God's%20call%20to%20Paul%20(v.1))

  [a.  To be an apostle (v.1a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\GREETING:%20THE%20CALL%20OF%20GOD,%201:1-2\1.%20God's%20call%20to%20Paul%20(v.1)\a.%20To%20be%20an%20apostle) The word means “messenger” and served as an official title for Paul and the 12 disciples (including Matthias, Acts 1:26), who were eyewitnesses of the resurrected Jesus and were chosen by God to lay the foundation for the church by preaching, teaching, and writing Scripture, accompanied by miracles (cf. 2 Cor. 12:12).

  [b.  By God's will (v.1b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\GREETING:%20THE%20CALL%20OF%20GOD,%201:1-2\1.%20God's%20call%20to%20Paul%20(v.1)\b.%20By%20God's%20will) God chose Paul to be an apostle. He was not chosen by the casting of lots by the other apostles as was Matthias (Acts 1:26). Make sure your calling is of God and that you do your calling.

[**2  God's call to the church and its believers (v.1c-2)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\GREETING:%20THE%20CALL%20OF%20GOD,%201:1-2\2.%20God's%20call%20to%20the%20church%20and%20its%20believers%20(v.1-2))

  [a.  To be saints and faithful (v.1c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\GREETING:%20THE%20CALL%20OF%20GOD,%201:1-2\2.%20God's%20call%20to%20the%20church%20and%20its%20believers%20(v.1-2)\a.%20To%20be%20saints%20and%20faithful) The word "saint" means set apart, consecrated, sacred, and holy. A saint is a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ who has been set apart to live for God. The saint has given himself to live a consecrated, sacred, and holy life—all for the glory of God.

 The word "faithful" means a person who has placed his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The faithful person is a person who has looked upon the Lord Jesus Christ and...

•  believed that Christ could and would save him.

•  counted Christ worthy of his trust.

•  placed his confidence in Christ and His Word.

•  entrusted his salvation into the hands of Christ.

•  committed his life to Christ.

  [b.  To receive grace and peace (v.2)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\GREETING:%20THE%20CALL%20OF%20GOD,%201:1-2\2.%20God's%20call%20to%20the%20church%20and%20its%20believers%20(v.1-2)\b.%20To%20receive%20grace%20and%20peace) *"Grace"* was the common Greek greeting, and *"peace"* was the common Hebrew greeting.

**First,** the origin of grace and peace. *"Grace... peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ"* (Ephesians 1:2). Grace and peace come from God and Jesus Christ.

**Second, the** order of grace and peace. Paul uses this greeting frequently and in each case grace is before peace. In salvation, God's grace comes first in providing salvation; then when grace is accepted peace comes. There is no peace in anything until grace is present.

**Third, the** oneness, “and” indicates equivalence; that is, the Lord Jesus Christ is equally divine with the Father.

[**I. THE ETERNAL PLAN OF GOD FOR THE CHRISTIAN BELIEVER, 1:3-23**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23)

[**A.  The Blessings of God, 1:3-14**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14)

[**God's blessings are heavenly blessings(v.3)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\1.%20God's%20blessings%20are%20heavenly%20blessings,%20not%20material%20(v.3)) Blessed means “eulogy,” which means to praise or commend. All things were created to praise God (Rev. 13:5).

**First,** a spiritual place. *"Spiritual blessings."* *Spiritual* does not refer to immaterial blessings as opposed to material ones, but rather to the work of God, who is the divine and spiritual source of all blessings.

 **Second,** a supernal place. *"Heavenly places."* This speaks of eternity. Our greatest salvation blessing will be realized in heaven, in eternity.

**Four effects to note about Spiritual Blessings**

1.  Spiritual blessings *are of the Spirit*. It is the Spirit that controls man and the circumstances that surround him. A man may feel bad; he may be down, depressed and oppressed; but if his spirit is strong, he arises and conquers his feelings. He controls and overcomes the oppressing circumstances, and he lives a victorious day. But if his spirit is weak, whether at work or at play, he often wallows around in self-pity, grumbling and griping and living a defeated day

2.  Spiritual blessings are the very opposite of temporal blessings. They are the *blessings of the inner man*, the blessings of the immortal. But of all blessings, they are the most glorious and satisfying. They are the blessings that erase the loneliness, alienation, and purposelessness of man. They are the blessings that help man to live in the abundance of life.

3.  Spiritual blessings are vastly superior to material blessings. They are *permanent and perfect.*

4.  Spiritual blessings are found only *in Christ*. Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead and exalted to the right hand of God the Father. He is in heaven, surrounded by all the heavenly atmosphere and blessings. All heavenly blessings are His; He is Lord and Possesser of all blessings. Therefore, if a person is to experience the spiritual blessings, he must be *in Christ*.

[**2  God has chosen us to be holy and blameless (v.4)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\2.%20God%20has%20chosen%20us%20to%20be%20holy%20and%20blameless%20(v.4))  The word "holy" (*hagious*) means to be set apart and consecrated to God.  The word "blameless" (*amōmous*) means to be free from sin, dirt, and filth; to be above reproach and without blemish; to be without fault and defilement.

  [a.  How: In Christ (v.4a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\2.%20God%20has%20chosen%20us%20to%20be%20holy%20and%20blameless%20(v.4)\a.%20How:%20In%20Christ) This holiness comes by remission of sins. And note it is holiness *"before him."* It is holiness according to God's standards.

[**3  God has adopted us as children (v.5-6)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\3.%20God%20has%20adopted%20us%20as%20children%20(v.5-6))

  [a.  Predestinated—Foreordained: Was His will (v.5a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\3.%20God%20has%20adopted%20us%20as%20children%20(v.5-6)\a.%20Predestinated--Foreordained:%20Was%20His%20will) The word "predestination" (*proorisas*) means to destine or appoint before, to foreordain, to predetermine, it means to mark off or to set off the boundaries of something. The idea is a glorious picture of what God is doing for the believer. The boundary is marked and set off for the believer: the boundary of being adopted as a child of God. The believer shall be adopted, made just like Christ and conformed to His very likeness and image. Nothing can stop God's purpose for the believer.

  [b.  How: By Christ (v.5b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\3.%20God%20has%20adopted%20us%20as%20children%20(v.5-6)\b.%20How:%20By%20Christ) Adoption is by Jesus Christ and by Him alone. God accepts us because we believe and trust His Son Jesus Christ. The result of God's election is our **adoption as sons**. In Christ we become subjects of His kingdom, and because He is our Lord we are His servants. He even calls us friends because, He says, "All things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you" (John 15:15). But in His great love He makes us more than citizens and servants, and even more than friends. He makes us children. God lovingly draws redeemed sinners into the intimacy of His own family.

  [c.  Why: To praise His grace (v.6)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\3.%20God%20has%20adopted%20us%20as%20children%20(v.5-6)\c.%20Why:%20To%20praise%20His%20grace) We are saved and made sons to the praise of the glory of His grace. Above all else, He elects and saves us for His own glory.

[**4  God has redeemed us—forgiven our sins (v.7)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\4.%20God%20has%20redeemed%20us--forgiven%20our%20sins%20(v.7))

  [a.  How: By Christ's blood (v.7a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\4.%20God%20has%20redeemed%20us--forgiven%20our%20sins%20(v.7)\a.%20How:%20By%20Christ's%20blood) There will be no forgiveness apart from redemption. Forgiveness of sins involves the blood of Christ. The blood of Christ is the only detergent that will wash away our sins which is necessary for forgiveness.

  [b.  Source: His grace (v.7b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\4.%20God%20has%20redeemed%20us--forgiven%20our%20sins%20(v.7)\b.%20Source:%20His%20grace) Forgiveness comes via grace not merit. We do not have enough goodness to bring about forgiveness.

[**5  God has given us wisdom and understanding (v.8)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\5.%20God%20has%20given%20us%20wisdom%20and%20understanding%20(v.8)) God's grace is accompanied by God's wisdom. Man's benevolence is often very unwise and causes more problems than it solves. But God's grace is exercised according to the wisdom of God.

[**6  God has revealed the mystery of His will to us (v.9-10)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\6.%20God%20has%20revealed%20the%20mystery%20of%20His%20will%20to%20us%20(v.9-10))

  [a.  Source: His purpose (v.9)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\6.%20God%20has%20revealed%20the%20mystery%20of%20His%20will%20to%20us%20(v.9-10)) God does what pleases Him. And it pleased Him to reveal *"the mystery of his will* “. This phrase means truth that has not been revealed to man. The emphasis is on the will of God in regards to salvation.

  [b.  To climax the ages (v.10a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\6.%20God%20has%20revealed%20the%20mystery%20of%20His%20will%20to%20us%20(v.9-10)) The term *"dispensation"* does not refer to an age but to an administration. Thus it speaks of ruling, and it is God Who is the ruler.

  [c.  To gather all things together in heaven and earth (v.10b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\6.%20God%20has%20revealed%20the%20mystery%20of%20His%20will%20to%20us%20(v.9-10)) At that time, "at the name of Jesus every knee [will] bow of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and... every tongue [will] confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil. 2:10-11). Christ will gather the entire universe into unity (see Ps. 2; Heb. 1:8-13). At the present time the universe is anything but unified. It is corrupted, divided, and splintered. Satan is now "the ruler of this world," but in that day he "shall be cast out" (John 12:31). He and his demon angels will be thrown into the pit during the Millennium, released for a short while, and then cast into the lake of fire for all eternity (Rev. 20:3, 10).

  [d.  To put all under Christ (v.10c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\6.%20God%20has%20revealed%20the%20mystery%20of%20His%20will%20to%20us%20(v.9-10)) Wherever there has been rebellion, there will be restoration under Christ. That rebellion took place on earth and in the heavens (not heaven where God is but the heavens—the space around the earth.

[**7  God has given us an inheritance: He has made us the heritage of God (v.11-13)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\7.%20God%20has%20given%20us%20an%20inheritance:%20He%20has%20made%20us%20the%20heritage%20of%20God%20(v.11-13))

  [a.  Predestinated—His will (v.11)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\7.%20God%20has%20given%20us%20an%20inheritance:%20He%20has%20made%20us%20the%20heritage%20of%20God%20(v.11-13)\a.%20Predestinated--His%20will)   The inheritance or heritage was predestinated, that is, foreordained. God works all things out after the counsel of His own will. He must, for only God knows what is best. And nothing could be better than to be given the greatest inheritance possible: that of being made the very heritage of God, the very possession of God.

  [b.  The inheritance: "That we should be," that is, exist eternally (v.12a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\7.%20God%20has%20given%20us%20an%20inheritance:%20He%20has%20made%20us%20the%20heritage%20of%20God%20(v.11-13)\b.%20The%20inheritance:%20%22That%20we%20should%20be,%22%20that%20is,%20exist%20eternally) God gives the believer an eternal state of being—an eternal existence. In fact, the word "inheritance" means heritage. God takes the believer and makes him His own heritage and possession. The believer himself is made the inheritance of God. He is given the glorious privilege of being, of living and existing forever as God's most cherished possession and heritage. He becomes the most precious gem and treasure of God. This is the believer's inheritance, his heritage.

  [c.  Why: That we should exist to His glory, v.12 (v.12b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\7.%20God%20has%20given%20us%20an%20inheritance:%20He%20has%20made%20us%20the%20heritage%20of%20God%20(v.11-13)\c.%20Why:%20That%20we%20should%20exist%20to%20His%20glory,%20v.12) The reason God makes us His inheritance is that we should exist to the praise of His glory. We shall live forever in the new heavens and earth as the perfect demonstration of His glory.

  [d.  How to receive the inheritance (v.13)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\7.%20God%20has%20given%20us%20an%20inheritance:%20He%20has%20made%20us%20the%20heritage%20of%20God%20(v.11-13)\d.%20How%20to%20receive%20the%20inheritance)

  [1)  By hearing the Word (v.13a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\7.%20God%20has%20given%20us%20an%20inheritance:%20He%20has%20made%20us%20the%20heritage%20of%20God%20(v.11-13)\d.%20How%20to%20receive%20the%20inheritance\1)%20By%20hearing%20the%20Word)By hearing the Word of God. A person has to hear the Word of God before he can ever know the truth, the glorious gospel of salvation. He cannot believe in Jesus Christ unless he first hears about Christ. Romans 10:17.

  [2)  By trusting in Christ (v.13b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\7.%20God%20has%20given%20us%20an%20inheritance:%20He%20has%20made%20us%20the%20heritage%20of%20God%20(v.11-13)\d.%20How%20to%20receive%20the%20inheritance\2)%20By%20trusting%20in%20Christ) You hear the Gospel, receive it, then comes the blessings. John 5:24,

 Romans 10:9-10

[**8  God has sealed us with the Holy Spirit (v.14)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\8.%20God%20has%20sealed%20us%20with%20the%20Holy%20Spirit%20(v.14))

  [a.  He is the guarantee of our inheritance (v.14a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\8.%20God%20has%20sealed%20us%20with%20the%20Holy%20Spirit%20(v.14)) God has sealed us with the Holy Spirit. The word "earnest" means pledge, guarantee, a down payment. The Holy Spirit is given to the believer to give the believer perfect assurance of his salvation. We know that we are redeemed—that we are God's cherished possession—by the Holy Spirit who lives within us.

  [b.  Why: To praise His glory (v.14b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\A.%20The%20Blessings%20of%20God,%201:3-14\8.%20God%20has%20sealed%20us%20with%20the%20Holy%20Spirit%20(v.14)) Why does God give us such a glorious guarantee as His own wonderful presence? That His glory might be praised eternally.

[**B.  The Knowledge of God, 1:15-18**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\B.%20The%20Knowledge%20of%20God,%201:15-18)

[**1  The basis: Faith and love (v.15-16)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\B.%20The%20Knowledge%20of%20God,%201:15-18\1.%20The%20basis:%20Faith%20and%20love%20(v.15-16))

  [a.  A strong testimony (v.15)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\B.%20The%20Knowledge%20of%20God,%201:15-18\1.%20The%20basis:%20Faith%20and%20love%20(v.15-16))  He had heard about their faith in God's love (that God had sent His Son to save the world) and about their loyalty to the Lord Jesus in carrying the message of God's love throughout the world.

  He had heard that they were ministering to the saints of God—demonstrating a great love for God's people.

  [b.  An ever present need (v.16)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\B.%20The%20Knowledge%20of%20God,%201:15-18\1.%20The%20basis:%20Faith%20and%20love%20(v.15-16)) Paul wanted the Ephesian believers to grow in their knowledge and power of God. He had just shared the great blessings of God which was theirs when they first came to know God (cp. Ephes. 1:3-14). Now he wanted them to grow in these blessings, the blessings of knowing God and experiencing the power of God. Therefore, he told them that he prayed for them. In fact, he never ceased to ask God that they might grow in the knowledge and power of God.

[**2  The need: A growing knowledge of God the God of Christ and the Father of glory (v.17-18a)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\B.%20The%20Knowledge%20of%20God,%201:15-18\2.%20The%20need:%20A%20growing%20knowledge%20of%20God%20the%20God%20of%20Christ%20and%20the%20Father%20of%20glory%20(v.17-18))

  [a.  Through the spirit of wisdom (v.17a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\B.%20The%20Knowledge%20of%20God,%201:15-18\2.%20The%20need:%20A%20growing%20knowledge%20of%20God%20the%20God%20of%20Christ%20and%20the%20Father%20of%20glory%20(v.17-18)\a.%20Through%20the%20spirit%20of%20wisdom) Therefore, spiritual wisdom means...

•  knowing who God is and how to relate to Him.

•  knowing the truth and how to use it.

•  knowing what to do and how to do it.

•  knowing how to live more and more fruitful lives—for the glory of God and for the welfare of men..

  [b.  Through the spirit of revelation (v.17b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\B.%20The%20Knowledge%20of%20God,%201:15-18\2.%20The%20need:%20A%20growing%20knowledge%20of%20God%20the%20God%20of%20Christ%20and%20the%20Father%20of%20glory%20(v.17-18)\b.%20Through%20the%20spirit%20of%20revelation) The word "revelation" means to manifest; to reveal; to unveil; to uncover; to open. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to reveal the knowledge of God to Christians. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to reveal the meaning of all truth to the Christian (John 14:26; John 16:12-15).

 [c.  Through an enlightened heart (v.18a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\B.%20The%20Knowledge%20of%20God,%201:15-18\2.%20The%20need:%20A%20growing%20knowledge%20of%20God%20the%20God%20of%20Christ%20and%20the%20Father%20of%20glory%20(v.17-18)\c.%20Through%20an%20enlightened%20heart) The heart must be opened so that the light of God can be seen and grasped. An open heart is the responsibility of both the believer and the Holy Spirit.

⇒  The believer must open his heart and focus its affection, intelligence, and will upon knowing God.

⇒  The believer must seek the Holy Spirit to enlighten and flood his heart with the things of God.

[**3  The results of knowing God (v.18b-d)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\B.%20The%20Knowledge%20of%20God,%201:15-18\3.%20The%20results%20of%20knowing%20God%20(v.18))

  [a.  Know God's calling (v.18b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\B.%20The%20Knowledge%20of%20God,%201:15-18\3.%20The%20results%20of%20knowing%20God%20(v.18)\a.%20Know%20God's%20calling) It is what has already been covered in the great spiritual blessings of God:

⇒  that we should be holy and without blame, living before Him forever and ever in love ([Ephes. 1:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+1%3A4)

⇒  that we should experience what it means to be adopted as children of God—forever and ever ([Ephes. 1:5-6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+1%3A5-6)).

⇒  that we should experience eternal redemption and forgiveness of sin ([Ephes. 1:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+1%3A7)).

⇒  that we should possess the wisdom and understanding of God ([Ephes. 1:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+1%3A8)).

⇒  that we should live in the perfect heaven and earth where there will be no more division but only peace and unity in Christ Jesus ([Ephes. 1:9-10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+1%3A9-10)).

  [b.  Know God's inheritance (v.18c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\B.%20The%20Knowledge%20of%20God,%201:15-18\3.%20The%20results%20of%20knowing%20God%20(v.18)\b.%20Know%20God's%20inheritance) When we come to know God, we learn who we are—the glorious position God has given us: He has made us His very own possession and heritage.

[**C.  The Power of God: Demonstrated in Christ's Exaltation, 1:19-23**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\C.%20The%20Power%20of%20God:%20Demonstrated%20in%20Christ's%20Exaltation,%201:19-23)

[**1  God's power: A great power (v.19)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\C.%20The%20Power%20of%20God:%20Demonstrated%20in%20Christ's%20Exaltation,%201:19-23\1.%20God's%20power:%20A%20great%20power%20(v.19))

[a.  In believers (v.19a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\C.%20The%20Power%20of%20God:%20Demonstrated%20in%20Christ's%20Exaltation,%201:19-23\1.%20God's%20power:%20A%20great%20power%20(v.19)) God's power is to us-ward; that is, God takes His power and extends it, presents it, makes it available to the believer:

 ⇒  It is "exceeding": surpassing, unlimited, immeasurable, beyond imagination.

⇒  It is "great": mighty, explosive, beyond measure.!

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  [b.  Measured by God's power in Christ exalted (v.19b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\C.%20The%20Power%20of%20God:%20Demonstrated%20in%20Christ's%20Exaltation,%201:19-23\1.%20God's%20power:%20A%20great%20power%20(v.19)) The "proof" has to do with the evidence of Divine power seen in what God has done in Christ. The evidence is basically twofold—it is in the raising of Christ from the grave and the raising of Christ in position.

[**2  The power that raised Him from the dead (v.20a)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\C.%20The%20Power%20of%20God:%20Demonstrated%20in%20Christ's%20Exaltation,%201:19-23\2.%20The%20power%20that%20raised%20Him%20from%20the%20dead%20(v.20))The resurrection of Christ manifested the mighty power of God

[**3  The power that took Him to heaven and set Him at God's right hand (v.20b)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\C.%20The%20Power%20of%20God:%20Demonstrated%20in%20Christ's%20Exaltation,%201:19-23\3.%20The%20power%20that%20took%20Him%20to%20heaven%20and%20set%20Him%20at%20God's%20right%20hand%20(v.20))

To sit next to the right hand of any authority is to sit in a place of great honor and rank. **Third,** in the church. *"Gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all"* (Ephesians 1:22, 23). The final position to which God in His power raised Jesus was the position of Head of the Church. This is not a position for the pope or any other human being. The position belongs to Jesus Christ.

[**4  The power that exalted Christ above all creatures: In this world and in the next world (v.21)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\C.%20The%20Power%20of%20God:%20Demonstrated%20in%20Christ's%20Exaltation,%201:19-23\4.%20The%20power%20that%20exalted%20Christ%20above%20all%20creatures:%20In%20this%20world%20and%20in%20the%20next%20world%20(v.21)) . Christ will have dominion over all things.

[**5  The power that exalted Him as the Supreme Head of the church (v.22-23)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\C.%20The%20Power%20of%20God:%20Demonstrated%20in%20Christ's%20Exaltation,%201:19-23\5.%20The%20power%20that%20exalted%20Him%20as%20the%20Supreme%20Head%20of%20the%20church%20(v.22-23))

  [a.  Christ—the Head (v.22)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\C.%20The%20Power%20of%20God:%20Demonstrated%20in%20Christ's%20Exaltation,%201:19-23\5.%20The%20power%20that%20exalted%20Him%20as%20the%20Supreme%20Head%20of%20the%20church%20(v.22-23)\a.%20Christ--the%20Head) the authoritative figure.

  [b.  The church—His body (v.23a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\C.%20The%20Power%20of%20God:%20Demonstrated%20in%20Christ's%20Exaltation,%201:19-23\5.%20The%20power%20that%20exalted%20Him%20as%20the%20Supreme%20Head%20of%20the%20church%20(v.22-23)\b.%20The%20church--His%20body) the redeemed in Christ.

  [c.  The church—His instrument (v.23b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\I.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PLAN%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%201:3-23\C.%20The%20Power%20of%20God:%20Demonstrated%20in%20Christ's%20Exaltation,%201:19-23\5.%20The%20power%20that%20exalted%20Him%20as%20the%20Supreme%20Head%20of%20the%20church%20(v.22-23)\c.%20The%20church--His%20instrument) the ones who carry out His function and works. The Church is the instrument of God that He uses to bring His will to the earth.

[**II. THE LIFE OF THE CHRISTIAN BELIEVER, 2:1-22**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22)

[**A.  The Believer's Life Before Conversion: Life Without Christ, 2:1-3**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\A.%20The%20Believer's%20Life%20Before%20Conversion:%20Life%20Without%20Christ,%202:1-3)

[**1  A life of death (v.1a)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\A.%20The%20Believer's%20Life%20Before%20Conversion:%20Life%20Without%20Christ,%202:1-3\1.%20A%20life%20of%20death%20(v.1)) The basic meaning of death is separation. Death never means extinction, annihilation, non-existence, or inactivity. The Bible speaks of three deaths.

1.  Physical death: the separation of a man's spirit from his body. This is what men commonly call death. It is when a person ceases to exist on this earth and is buried. (Hebrews 9:27).

2.  Spiritual death: the separation of a man from God while he is still living and walking upon earth. This is the natural state of a man on earth without Jesus Christ. Man is seen as still in his sins and dead to God.

 (1 Timothy 5:6).

3.  Eternal death: the separation of man from God's presence forever. This is the second death, an eternal state of being dead to God. It is spiritual death, separation from God that is prolonged beyond the death of the body. It is called the "second death" or eternal death. (Rev. 21:8).

[**2  A life of trespasses and sins (v.1b-2)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\A.%20The%20Believer's%20Life%20Before%20Conversion:%20Life%20Without%20Christ,%202:1-3\2.%20A%20life%20of%20trespasses%20and%20sins%20(v.1-2))

  [a.  Walking after the course of the world (v.2a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\A.%20The%20Believer's%20Life%20Before%20Conversion:%20Life%20Without%20Christ,%202:1-3\2.%20A%20life%20of%20trespasses%20and%20sins%20(v.1-2)\a.%20Walking%20after%20the%20course%20of%20the%20world) to follow the views and values of the world that are apart from God.

  [b.  Walking under the devil's power (v.2b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\A.%20The%20Believer's%20Life%20Before%20Conversion:%20Life%20Without%20Christ,%202:1-3\2.%20A%20life%20of%20trespasses%20and%20sins%20(v.1-2)\b.%20Walking%20under%20the%20devil's%20power) to walk under the power and influence of Satan.

  [c.  Walking in disobedience (v.2c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\A.%20The%20Believer's%20Life%20Before%20Conversion:%20Life%20Without%20Christ,%202:1-3\2.%20A%20life%20of%20trespasses%20and%20sins%20(v.1-2)\c.%20Walking%20in%20disobedience) means to refuse to obey God, refuses to do what God says. He chooses to do what he wants instead of what he should do. And note: he is classified by God as one of the "children of disobedience." He is a child of disobedience; that is, he is in the family of disobedience, not in the family of God.

[**3  A life spent with the disobedient of the world (v.3a-b)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\A.%20The%20Believer's%20Life%20Before%20Conversion:%20Life%20Without%20Christ,%202:1-3\3.%20A%20life%20spent%20with%20the%20disobedient%20of%20the%20world%20(v.3))

  [a.  Spent in lusts of flesh (v.3a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\A.%20The%20Believer's%20Life%20Before%20Conversion:%20Life%20Without%20Christ,%202:1-3\3.%20A%20life%20spent%20with%20the%20disobedient%20of%20the%20world%20(v.3)\a.%20Spent%20in%20lusts%20of%20flesh) The point is this: the unconverted man lives to fulfill the desires of his flesh and mind.

  [b.  Spent fulfilling one's own desires—of the flesh and of the mind (v.3b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\A.%20The%20Believer's%20Life%20Before%20Conversion:%20Life%20Without%20Christ,%202:1-3\3.%20A%20life%20spent%20with%20the%20disobedient%20of%20the%20world%20(v.3)\b.%20Spent%20fulfilling%20one's%20own%20desires--of%20the%20flesh%20and%20of%20the%20mind) His life is self-centered, not God-centered; world-centered, not heaven-centered.

[**4  A life under God's wrath (v.3c)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\A.%20The%20Believer's%20Life%20Before%20Conversion:%20Life%20Without%20Christ,%202:1-3\4.%20A%20life%20under%20God's%20wrath%20(v.3)) This is Divine wrath. Sin/defilement brings the wrath of God upon the unrepentant sinner. Wrath may not come for awhile after the sin. God uses this gracious delay to give the sinner time to repent. But this gracious delay is often perverted by sinners into a reason for thinking the sinner has escaped judgment. However, eventually Divine wrath comes upon the sinner.

[**B.  The Believer's Conversion (Part I): The Work of God's Mercy, 2:4-7**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\B.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20I):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Mercy,%202:4-7)

[**1  God has quickened us with Christ (v.4-5)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\B.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20I):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Mercy,%202:4-7\1.%20God%20has%20quickened%20us%20with%20Christ%20(v.4-5))

  [a.  Why: Because His very nature is mercy and love (v.4)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\B.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20I):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Mercy,%202:4-7\1.%20God%20has%20quickened%20us%20with%20Christ%20(v.4-5)\a.%20Why:%20Because%20His%20very%20nature%20is%20mercy%20and%20love)

* God is full of mercy: feelings of pity, compassion, affection, kindness. It is a desire to succor, to tenderly draw unto oneself and to care for. Two things are essential in order to have mercy: seeing a need and being able to meet that need. God sees our need and feels for us .
* God is love; He is full of love a selfless and sacrificial love; a love of the mind, of the reason, of the will as well as of the heart and affections. It is the love that goes so far...

•  that it loves a person even if he does not deserve to be loved.

•  that it loves the person who is utterly unworthy of being loved.

•  that it is compelled to sacrifice itself for its enemies (Romans 5:8, 10).

  [b.  When: While we were dead in sins (v.5a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\B.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20I):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Mercy,%202:4-7\1.%20God%20has%20quickened%20us%20with%20Christ%20(v.4-5)\b.%20When:%20While%20we%20were%20dead%20in%20sins) Salvation came when man was sinful Nothing shows the grace of God so much as the fact that God provided for our salvation even though we *"were dead in sins."* One does not have to improve his conduct in order to be saved. God does the saving when a person is sinful.

  [c.  How: By quickening us together with Christ (v.5b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\B.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20I):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Mercy,%202:4-7\1.%20God%20has%20quickened%20us%20with%20Christ%20(v.4-5)\c.%20How:%20By%20quickening%20us%20together%20with%20Christ) God quickens or regenerates and makes us alive with Christ.

[**2  God has raised us up with Christ (v.6a)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\B.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20I):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Mercy,%202:4-7\2.%20God%20has%20raised%20us%20up%20with%20Christ%20(v.6)) The power of God in conversion is seen in at least three ways here.

**First,** the raising in purity. When a person is saved, there is a purification of their conduct.

 **Second,** the raising in promise. The believer's resurrection is seen here also. The believer will be raised bodily from the grave which is called *"the resurrection of the just"* (Luke 14:14) to a glorious future.

 **Third,** the raising in position. *"Made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus"* . The future position of believers will be high indeed. They may live in humble circumstances on the earth but in heaven they will be exalted *"in Christ."*

[**3  God has made us sit in heavenly places—in Christ (v.6b)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\B.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20I):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Mercy,%202:4-7\3.%20God%20has%20made%20us%20sit%20in%20heavenly%20places--in%20Christ%20(v.6)) Heavenly places" should read "in the heavenlies." The believer is said to be in Christ. Christ is said to be "in the heavenlies." Therefore, the believer is in the heavenly realm of experience with Christ. True, the believer physically lives on earth, but spiritually he has already been placed "in the heavenlies." The believer is of both realms. He belongs to two worlds. He has two addresses: in Ephesus and in Christ. He maintains two relationships: one to earth and one to heaven (cp. Hebrews 3:1; 1 Peter 2:11).

[**4  God had one great purpose: To show us the riches of His grace—in the ages to come (v.7)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\B.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20I):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Mercy,%202:4-7\4.%20God%20had%20one%20great%20purpose:%20To%20show%20us%20the%20riches%20of%20His%20grace--in%20the%20ages%20to%20come%20(v.7))

[**C.  The Believer's Conversion (Part II): The Work of God's Grace—Salvation, 2:8-10**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\C.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20II):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Grace--Salvation,%202:8-10)

[**1  You are saved (v.8-9)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\C.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20II):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Grace--Salvation,%202:8-10\1.%20You%20are%20saved%20(v.8-9))

  [a.  Saved by God's grace (v.8a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\C.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20II):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Grace--Salvation,%202:8-10\1.%20You%20are%20saved%20(v.8-9)\a.%20Saved%20by%20God's%20grace) Grace means the favor and kindness of God, but there is a uniqueness about God's favor and kindness. His favor and kindness are given despite the fact that it is undeserved and unmerited.

  [b.  Saved through faith (v.8b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\C.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20II):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Grace--Salvation,%202:8-10\1.%20You%20are%20saved%20(v.8-9)\b.%20Saved%20through%20faith) Man must believe just what God says and accept His Word, accept His free offer of salvation. And when he accepts the fact that God says He will save him, God takes him and creates him into a "new man" (2 Cor. 5:17).

  [c.  Not saved of yourself (v.8c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\C.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20II):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Grace--Salvation,%202:8-10\1.%20You%20are%20saved%20(v.8-9)\c.%20Not%20saved%20of%20yourself) salvation is entirely an act of God’s grace based on the redemption of His Son.

  [d.  Saved as a gift of God, not of works (v.9a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\C.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20II):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Grace--Salvation,%202:8-10\1.%20You%20are%20saved%20(v.8-9)\d.%20Saved%20as%20a%20gift%20of%20God,%20not%20of%20works) 7 reasons why salvation must be a free gift.

a.  Man cannot make God owe him. Man cannot put God in debt for work performed. A man who works puts his employer in debt for his services (Romans 4:4).

b.  Man cannot bring perfection to God. God is perfect, incorruptible, and permanent. Man and everything about man is imperfect, corruptible, and decaying (Ephes. 1:7).

c.  Man cannot make God forgive him. Man is the one who has done wrong, offended and hurt God. It is man who has broken off the friendship and relationship with God (Romans 3:23; Romans 8:6-8).

d.  Man cannot heal God's heart. Man's sin breaks the heart of God (Romans 5:6, 8, 10).

e.  Man cannot save himself (Ephes. 2:8-9).

f.  Man cannot make God love him (Titus 3:4-7).

g.  Man cannot set himself free and bring about liberty of conscience.

  [e.  Reason: Lest you boast (v.9b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\C.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20II):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Grace--Salvation,%202:8-10\1.%20You%20are%20saved%20(v.8-9)\e.%20Reason:%20Lest%20you%20boast) salvation is a gift to prevent men from boasting.

[**2  You are God's workmanship (v.10)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\C.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20II):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Grace--Salvation,%202:8-10\2.%20You%20are%20God's%20workmanship%20(v.10))

  [a.  Created in Christ Jesus (v.10a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\C.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20II):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Grace--Salvation,%202:8-10\2.%20You%20are%20God's%20workmanship%20(v.10)\a.%20Created%20in%20Christ%20Jesus)

* It means that God quickens the spirit of the believer and makes his spirit alive. Whereas the believer's spirit was dead to God, God creates it anew and makes it alive to God.
* It means that God causes the believer to be born again spiritually.
* It means that God actually places His divine nature into the heart of the believer.

  [b.  Created to do good works (v.10b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\C.%20The%20Believer's%20Conversion%20(Part%20II):%20The%20Work%20of%20God's%20Grace--Salvation,%202:8-10\2.%20You%20are%20God's%20workmanship%20(v.10)\b.%20Created%20to%20do%20good%20works) God saves man for good works not by good .The believer shows that he is God's workmanship by the life he lives and displays. Works are an evidence of salvation. Those who walk in trespasses and sins show that they are not God's workmanship no matter what profession they make. God's people give ample evidence of the power of a new life which operates in them.

Note that God has ordained us to walk in good works. Doing good works is not an option for the believer; it is the very nature of the believer

[**D.  Remember What Life is Like Since Christ Came: Reconciliation and Peace, 2:11-18**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18)

[**1  We were far off and separated from God (v.11-12)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\1.%20We%20were%20far%20off%20and%20separated%20from%20God%20(v.11-12))

  [a.  We were barricaded from God: Were Gentiles and uncircumcised (v.11)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\1.%20We%20were%20far%20off%20and%20separated%20from%20God%20(v.11-12)\a.%20We%20were%20barricaded%20from%20God:%20Were%20Gentiles%20and%20uncircumcised) Circumcision was the mark of the Abrahamic covenant through which Christ came. The Gentiles were thus outside this covenant blessing, for they were uncircumcised people.”*Uncircumcised"* referred to those outside of God's favor and therefore condemned. It was a good expression to show that one needed to be saved.

  [b.  We were without Christ (v.12a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\1.%20We%20were%20far%20off%20and%20separated%20from%20God%20(v.11-12)\b.%20We%20were%20without%20Christ) This means that we as Gentiles neither knew nor expected the Messiah, that is, the anointed One of God. As Gentiles we had no hope of the coming Saviour for the world.

  [c.  We were aliens from God's people (Israel) (v.12b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\1.%20We%20were%20far%20off%20and%20separated%20from%20God%20(v.11-12)\c.%20We%20were%20aliens%20from%20God's%20people%20(Israel)) .  We were "aliens" from God's people, that is, from Israel. This means that we as Gentiles were not citizens of God's people—the nation of people being built by God for Himself. As Gentiles we had no destiny.

  [d.  We were strangers from God's covenant and promises (v.12c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\1.%20We%20were%20far%20off%20and%20separated%20from%20God%20(v.11-12)\d.%20We%20were%20strangers%20from%20God's%20covenant%20and%20promises) We were "strangers from the covenant and promises of God." This means that we as Gentiles were not the covenant people of God. God did not approach the Gentiles directly with the covenant relationship. The Jews alone had a covenant relationship with God.

  [e.  We were without hope and without God (v.12d)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\1.%20We%20were%20far%20off%20and%20separated%20from%20God%20(v.11-12)\e.%20We%20were%20without%20hope%20and%20without%20God) This means that we as Gentiles lived in all the fears and the anxieties of life and in constant expectancy of death. We had no hope of a life beyond this world beyond human history. This means that we as Gentiles stood alone in this world. We had no source of strength or hope beyond that which we ourselves could muster or which others like us could provide. There was nothing to which we could look beyond ourselves. We had "gods many, and lords many" (1 Cor. 8:5), but we were alienated from the only living and true God.

[**2  Christ brings us near to God (v.13)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\2.%20Christ%20brings%20us%20near%20to%20God%20(v.13)) The blood of Christ cleanses us from our sins and brings God near to us. Hebrew 9:22

[**3  Christ brings us peace (v.14-15)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\3.%20Christ%20brings%20us%20peace%20(v.14-15))

  [a.  He made all men as one (v.14a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\3.%20Christ%20brings%20us%20peace%20(v.14-15)\a.%20He%20made%20all%20men%20as%20one)  All men now approach God on the same basis, on an equal footing: by the blood of Jesus Christ. There is no other way.

  [b.  He broke down all barriers (v.14b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\3.%20Christ%20brings%20us%20peace%20(v.14-15)\b.%20He%20broke%20down%20all%20barriers) Christ brings peace by breaking down all barriers . This is a picture taken from the temple. The temple was surrounded by a series of courts. Each court had a high wall separating it from the preceding court. As one approached the temple, he entered first of all the outer Court of the Gentiles. This is where the buying and selling of animals and the exchanging of money for foreign worshippers took place. Then there was the Court of the Women. A Jewish woman was limited to this court unless she had come to make a sacrifice. The next court was the Court of the Israelites. This is where the whole congregation gathered on the great feast days and where sacrifices were handed over to the priests. The Court of the Priests was next. This court was in the temple proper where the temple itself stood. This area was considered sacred and was accessible only to the services of the priests. Finally, within the very heart of the temple stood the Holy of Holies or the Most Holy Place where the very presence of God was to dwell. Only the High Priest could enter the Holy Place and he could enter only once a year—at the great Passover Feast. The picture is that Christ destroyed all the partitions that separated man from approaching the presence of God.

  [c.  He wiped out all rules (v.15a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\3.%20Christ%20brings%20us%20peace%20(v.14-15)\c.%20He%20wiped%20out%20all%20rules) Before Christ, man had to approach Christ through the law. The law didn’t make man acceptable to God and revealed how far man was from God. When Christ came, He became the embodiment of the law and therefore provided a way to God that made man acceptable to God

  [d.  He creates a "new man" (v.15b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\3.%20Christ%20brings%20us%20peace%20(v.14-15)\d.%20He%20creates%20a%20%22new%20man%22) When a man turns to Christ, Christ causes the man to be born again. He recreates the man—creates the man all over again. The man has a new life; he begins life all over again. He has a new beginning, and this new beginning brings peace—peace of heart and mind.

 [**4  Christ brings us reconciliation (v.16-17)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\4.%20Christ%20brings%20us%20reconciliation%20(v.16-17))

  [a.  By the cross (v.16)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\4.%20Christ%20brings%20us%20reconciliation%20(v.16-17)) The word "reconcile" means to change, to change thoroughly, to exchange, to change from enmity to friendship, to bring together, to restore. The idea is that two persons who should have been together all along are brought together; two persons who had something between them are restored and reunited. It was at the cross that the relationship was mended between God and man.

  [b.  By the preaching of peace (v.17)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\4.%20Christ%20brings%20us%20reconciliation%20(v.16-17)) 2 Cor. 5:19-21.

[**5  Christ brings us access to God (v.18)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\D.%20Remember%20What%20Life%20is%20Like%20Since%20Christ%20Came:%20Reconciliation%20and%20Peace,%202:11-18\5.%20Christ%20brings%20us%20access%20to%20God%20(v.18)) Christ brings us access to God. The word access means to bring to, to move to, to introduce, to present. The thought is that of being in a royal court and being presented and introduced to the King of kings. Jesus Christ is the One who throws open the door into God's presence. He is the One who presents us to God, the Sovereign Majesty of the universe. Note that it is the Holy Spirit who escorts us into God's presence. The idea is that of daily access—hour by hour, moment by moment. The Holy Spirit keeps us in the presence of God.

[**E.  Remember Who You Are: Six Pictures of the Church, 2:19-22**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\E.%20Remember%20Who%20You%20Are:%20Six%20Pictures%20of%20the%20Church,%202:19-22)

[**1  Picture 1: A new nation (v.19a)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\E.%20Remember%20Who%20You%20Are:%20Six%20Pictures%20of%20the%20Church,%202:19-22\1.%20Picture%201:%20A%20new%20nation%20(v.19))  We were strangers and foreigners. The word "stranger" means an outsider, an unknown person, a person who does not belong. The word "foreigner" means sojourner, alien, a migrant, an exile. Note the word "saints." It means those who are set apart or separated to God. The picture is that of a people who are fellow citizens in a nation being created by God. The people are called...

•  Saints: a people set apart to God.

•  Fellow citizens: a people being built into a new nation under God

[**2  Picture 2: God's family (v.19b)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\E.%20Remember%20Who%20You%20Are:%20Six%20Pictures%20of%20the%20Church,%202:19-22\2.%20Picture%202:%20God's%20family%20(v.19)) Jesus Christ has brought us into the family of God. This involves two glorious privileges.

1. The privilege of adoption. We have been adopted as children of God, sons and daughters of His.
2. The privilege of responsibility and service. Again, note the term household. Every person of the household has duties to perform, some service to render for the sake of the family

[**3  Picture 3: God's building (v.20)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\E.%20Remember%20Who%20You%20Are:%20Six%20Pictures%20of%20the%20Church,%202:19-22\3.%20Picture%203:%20God's%20building%20(v.20)) Believers are pictured as being the building stones which are being used to construct a building for God. Note two significant points.

1.  Jesus Christ Himself is the chief cornerstone. The symbolism of the chief cornerstone says three significant things to us.

a.  The cornerstone is the first stone laid. All other stones are placed after it. It is the preeminent stone in time. So it is with Christ. He is the first of God's new movement.

b.  The cornerstone is the supportive stone. All other stones are placed upon it and held up by it. They all rest upon it. The cornerstone is the preeminent stone in position and power. So it is with Christ. He is the support and power, the Foundation of God's new movement.

[**4  Picture 4: A growing organism (v.21a)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\E.%20Remember%20Who%20You%20Are:%20Six%20Pictures%20of%20the%20Church,%202:19-22\4.%20Picture%204:%20A%20growing%20organism%20(v.21)) The word "grows" is a biological word, the idea of a living organism. The church is pictured as a living organism—the union of various parts of a living being, of a dynamic body. The point is that more and more parts, more and more believers are brought and fitted into the building as each day passes The building grows and grows and shall continue to grow until the Lord Jesus Christ returns..

[**5  Picture 5: A world-wide temple—the universal church (v.21b)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\E.%20Remember%20Who%20You%20Are:%20Six%20Pictures%20of%20the%20Church,%202:19-22\5.%20Picture%205:%20A%20world-wide%20temple--the%20universal%20church%20(v.21)) All believers of every generation who are being called from all across the world are being fitted into God's universal building which will literally be the new heavens and earth. We, the church—the believers of the earth from all generations—shall be a part, a building stone, of the new universe when God makes the new heavens and earth.

[**6  Picture 6: A local temple-the local church (v.22)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\II.%20THE%20LIFE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%202:1-22\E.%20Remember%20Who%20You%20Are:%20Six%20Pictures%20of%20the%20Church,%202:19-22\6.%20Picture%206:%20A%20local%20temple-the%20local%20church%20(v.22)) Note that the local church exists for the purpose of providing a habitation, a home for the presence of God—through His Spirit. The church is to allow the Spirit of God to live out His life through the church.

[**III. THE ETERNAL PURPOSE OF GOD FOR THE CHRISTIAN BELIEVER, 3:1-21**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21)

[**A.  A New Body of People: The Great Mystery of Christ, 3:1-13**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13)

[**1  It gave Paul purpose for existing (v.1-2)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\1.%20It%20gave%20Paul%20purpose%20for%20existing%20(v.1-2))

  [a.  He existed to be a prisoner for Christ (v.1)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\1.%20It%20gave%20Paul%20purpose%20for%20existing%20(v.1-2)\a.%20He%20existed%20to%20be%20a%20prisoner%20for%20Christ) Paul views his circumstances (a prisoner at that time) from a noble perspective. He did not view his being a prisoner as being a prisoner of Rome or of his enemies, but he viewed himself as Christ's prisoner—he was Christ's servant and if that included prison, then he was Christ's prisoner. Regardless of his circumstances, he was loyal to Christ.

  [b.  He existed to be a steward of God's grace (v.2)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\1.%20It%20gave%20Paul%20purpose%20for%20existing%20(v.1-2)\b.%20He%20existed%20to%20be%20a%20steward%20of%20God's%20grace) The word "dispensation" means stewardship, management, administration, ownership. Paul was given the duty to oversee and administer the grace of God to the world.

[**2  It was a mystery: It required a special revelation to become known (v.3-5)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\2.%20It%20was%20a%20mystery:%20It%20required%20a%20special%20revelation%20to%20become%20known%20(v.3-5))

  [a.  Revealed to Paul (v.3-4)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\2.%20It%20was%20a%20mystery:%20It%20required%20a%20special%20revelation%20to%20become%20known%20(v.3-5)\a.%20Revealed%20to%20Paul) Paul learned about this mystery not from books or from others but it was a Divine revelation given to him by the Lord. We do not need or receive revelations today but we receive illumination to understand

  [b.  Revealed to others (v.5)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\2.%20It%20was%20a%20mystery:%20It%20required%20a%20special%20revelation%20to%20become%20known%20(v.3-5)\b.%20Revealed%20to%20others) The prophets and faithful Jews did not know that the Gentiles were going to be given great spiritual privileges like the Jews had. The revelation of this mystery took place after the ascension of Jesus Christ.

[**3  It was a threefold revelation (v.6)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\3.%20It%20was%20a%20threefold%20revelation%20(v.6))

  [a.  All are fellow-heirs (v.6a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\3.%20It%20was%20a%20threefold%20revelation%20(v.6)\a.%20All%20are%20fellow-heirs) the Gentiles would be fellowheirs with the Jews.

  [b.  All are of the same body (v.6b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\3.%20It%20was%20a%20threefold%20revelation%20(v.6)\b.%20All%20are%20of%20the%20same%20body) the Gentiles should be members of the family of God.

  [c.  All share in God's promise: The new creation (v.6c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\3.%20It%20was%20a%20threefold%20revelation%20(v.6)\c.%20All%20share%20in%20God's%20promise:%20The%20new%20creation) the Gentiles would by faith be partakers of Gospel blessings.

[**4  It affected Paul—profoundly (v.7-9)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\4.%20It%20affected%20Paul--profoundly%20(v.7-9))

  [a.  Caused him to become a minister—by the power of God (v.7)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\4.%20It%20affected%20Paul--profoundly%20(v.7-9)\a.%20Caused%20him%20to%20become%20a%20minister--by%20the%20power%20of%20God) Paul saw the dignity of the ministry, the dignity of being especially chosen by God. The ministry was a radiant privilege for Paul. God did not have to persuade Paul to be a minister. No one had to persuade Paul to teach ([Ephes. 4:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+4%3A1)); to sing ([Ephes. 5:19](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+5%3A19)); to speak for God ([Ephes. 4:17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+4%3A17)); to visit ([2 Cor. 13:1f](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Co+13%3A1)); to administer the affairs of the church ([1 Cor. 7:1f](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Co+7%3A1)); to give his money ([2 Cor. 8:1f](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Co+8%3A1); [2 Cor. 9:1f](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Co+9%3A1)). Paul did not have to be coerced. He saw his call to be a minister of God as the greatest of all privileges.

  [b.  Caused him to become a preacher—unworthy as he was (v.8)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\4.%20It%20affected%20Paul--profoundly%20(v.7-9)\b.%20Caused%20him%20to%20become%20a%20preacher--unworthy%20as%20he%20was) There was no merit, no worth, no value within Paul that caused God to choose him as a minister and as a preacher..

  [c.  Caused him to become an evangelist (v.9)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\4.%20It%20affected%20Paul--profoundly%20(v.7-9)\c.%20Caused%20him%20to%20become%20an%20evangelist) Paul was to illuminate men in regards to the Gospel privilege being given to the Gentiles so they would be persuaded about this truth. This privilege had been hid from man since the beginning of man (*"creation")*

[**5  It affects heavenly beings even now, profoundly so: Causes them to stand in stark amazement (v.10-12)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\5.%20It%20affects%20heavenly%20beings%20even%20now,%20profoundly%20so:%20Causes%20them%20to%20stand%20in%20stark%20amazement%20(v.10-12))

  [a.  At what God is doing in the church (v.10)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\5.%20It%20affects%20heavenly%20beings%20even%20now,%20profoundly%20so:%20Causes%20them%20to%20stand%20in%20stark%20amazement%20(v.10-12)\a.%20At%20what%20God%20is%20doing%20in%20the%20church) Through Paul's work the composition of the church would make known to the angels this plan of God for the Gentiles.

  [b.  At God's eternal purpose—in Christ (v.11)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\5.%20It%20affects%20heavenly%20beings%20even%20now,%20profoundly%20so:%20Causes%20them%20to%20stand%20in%20stark%20amazement%20(v.10-12)\b.%20At%20God's%20eternal%20purpose--in%20Christ) God had a plan; Paul's ministry would be fulfilled according to that plan.

  [c.  At the believer's access into God's presence—by faith (v.12)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\5.%20It%20affects%20heavenly%20beings%20even%20now,%20profoundly%20so:%20Causes%20them%20to%20stand%20in%20stark%20amazement%20(v.10-12)\c.%20At%20the%20believer's%20access%20into%20God's%20presence--by%20faith) Heavenly beings stand in stark amazement at the believer's access into God's presence—at the fact that access is granted to us by faith in Christ.

[**6  It stirred a willingness within (v.13)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\A.%20A%20New%20Body%20of%20People:%20The%20Great%20Mystery%20of%20Christ,%203:1-13\6.%20It%20stirred%20a%20willingness%20within%20(v.13)) Paul is, therefore, willing to suffer for the church. The glory of all that lies ahead for the believer is so glorious that any suffering is worth the reward. Therefore, no believer should ever faint in suffering or in seeing other believers suffer. It is all worth the price of whatever suffering we are called to bear, even martyrdom.

[**B.  A Mature Believer in Christ: The Great Prayer for the Church and the Believer, 3:14-21**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21)

[**1  The prayer (v.14-15)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\1.%20The%20prayer%20(v.14-15))

  [a.  Was for a cause (v.14a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\1.%20The%20prayer%20(v.14-15)\a.%20Was%20for%20a%20cause) The cause is the fact of salvation being given to the Gentiles. Therefore Paul prays for the spiritual well-being of these converted Gentiles in Ephesus.

  [b.  Was with bowed knees (v.14b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\1.%20The%20prayer%20(v.14-15)\b.%20Was%20with%20bowed%20knees) This is not necessarily a physical posture but shows the posture of reverence to God by the one praying. We must always come to God in this holy respect of Deity.

  [c.  To the Father of Christ (v.14c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\1.%20The%20prayer%20(v.14-15)\c.%20To%20the%20Father%20of%20Christ) Paul was praying to God, not to Mary or some saint. Scripture never gives any encouragement to pray to anyone but God Almighty.

  [d.  Was for the whole family of God: Believers, past and present (v.15)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\1.%20The%20prayer%20(v.14-15)\d.%20Was%20for%20the%20whole%20family%20of%20God:%20Believers,%20past%20and%20present)

[**2  Request 1: For strength, power within—by God's Spirit (v.16)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\2.%20Request%201:%20For%20strength,%20power%20within--by%20God's%20Spirit%20(v.16)) Spiritual strength is more important than physical strength. The emphasis on physical strength is very great in our age, but such strength is insignificant compared to spiritual strength.

[**3  Request 2: For Christ to rule and reign within—by faith (v.17a)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\3.%20Request%202:%20For%20Christ%20to%20rule%20and%20reign%20within--by%20faith%20(v.17)) This is a simple request for salvation for the souls in Ephesus.

[**4  Request 3: For love (v.17b)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\4.%20Request%203:%20For%20love%20(v.17)) This request is connected to the next request. In order to comprehend spiritual truths, one must have a good spiritual foundation. That the foundation is *"love"* is instructive. You must *"love"* Christ in order to comprehend Divine truths. All other knowledge can be learned apart from love for it, but not spiritual truths.

[**5  Request 4: For understanding—a full understanding of spiritual things (v.18)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\5.%20Request%204:%20For%20understanding--a%20full%20understanding%20of%20spiritual%20things%20(v.18)) A great need of the redeemed is spiritual understanding.

[**6  Request 5: To know the love of Christ (v.19a)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\6.%20Request%205:%20To%20know%20the%20love%20of%20Christ%20(v.19)) It is utterly impossible to grasp and experience the love of Christ anywhere close to its full measure, but we should pray for God to help us learn more and more of His love.

[**7  Request 6: For the fulness of God (v.19b)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\7.%20Request%206:%20For%20the%20fulness%20of%20God%20(v.19)) This is spirituality deluxe. If you arrive at this accomplishment, you will think very differently, act very differently, and be very different than those around you and will be considered a spiritual fanatic and "nut" by carnal Christians and the world. Paul wants the Ephesian saints to grow in the Lord a good deal more than most saints desire to grow in the Lord.

[**8  Conclusion: The encouragement to pray and trust God for the answer (v.20-21)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\8.%20Conclusion:%20The%20encouragement%20to%20pray%20and%20trust%20God%20for%20the%20answer%20(v.20-21))

  [a.  The fact: God is able (v.20a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\8.%20Conclusion:%20The%20encouragement%20to%20pray%20and%20trust%20God%20for%20the%20answer%20(v.20-21)\a.%20The%20fact:%20God%20is%20able) 1.  God is able to do what we ask. Note just how strong and powerful God is. He is able to do...

•  "exceedingly": to surpass; to go beyond any request; to overcome and do anything.

•  "abundantly": to overflow and to do more than enough.

•  "above": to go over and above, beyond any need.

•  "all that we ask."

•  all that we can think. Imagine going beyond anything we can think! What is the greatest answer or deliverance we can think? God is able to do exceedingly, abundantly, above all that we can think.

  [b.  The source: The power that works in us (v.20b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\8.%20Conclusion:%20The%20encouragement%20to%20pray%20and%20trust%20God%20for%20the%20answer%20(v.20-21)\b.%20The%20source:%20The%20power%20that%20works%20in%20us) What is that power within us? It is the combined power of all that God has put within us, all that for which we are praying:

⇒  the power of the Spirit strengthening us.

⇒  the power of Christ indwelling us.

⇒  the power of love working in us.

⇒  the power of understanding all that God does.

⇒  the power of the fulness of God Himself.

  [c.  The purpose: That God might be glorified in the church through Jesus Christ (v.21)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\III.%20THE%20ETERNAL%20PURPOSE%20OF%20GOD%20FOR%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%203:1-21\B.%20A%20Mature%20Believer%20in%20Christ:%20The%20Great%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Church%20and%20the%20Believer,%203:14-21\8.%20Conclusion:%20The%20encouragement%20to%20pray%20and%20trust%20God%20for%20the%20answer%20(v.20-21)\c.%20The%20purpose:%20That%20God%20might%20be%20glorified%20in%20the%20church%20through%20Jesus%20Christ) Note the purpose of God in answering prayer and in doing all this for us: that He might be glorified in the church through Christ Jesus. And note how long He is to be glorified: throughout all ages, world without end.

[**IV. THE WALK OF THE CHRISTIAN BELIEVER, 4:1-6:9**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9)

[**A.  The Believer is to Walk Worthy of His Calling, 4:1-6**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6)

[**1  The way to walk worthy (v.1-2)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\1.%20The%20way%20to%20walk%20worthy%20(v.1-2)) *"Worthy"* means appropriately or as becometh. The *"vocation wherewith ye are called"* refers to their salvation. This is the summary of the prerequisites which we will see in more detail in later verses. God's people must act like God's people if there is to be unity. Too often church business meetings reflect the attitudes and conduct of the world not of God's people. God's people should represent a united group, not a divided group.

  [a.  With lowliness (v.2a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\1.%20The%20way%20to%20walk%20worthy%20(v.1-2)\a.%20With%20lowliness) Pride does not promote unity. *"By pride cometh contention"* (Proverbs 13:10). *"He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife"* (Proverbs 28:2).

  [b.  With meekness (v.2b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\1.%20The%20way%20to%20walk%20worthy%20(v.1-2)\b.%20With%20meekness) Meekness is power under control. Biblical meekness is power under the control of God. A meek person is normally quiet, soothing, and mild mannered and he is never avenging, self-assertive, vindictive, or self-defensive.

  [c.  With long-suffering (v.2c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\1.%20The%20way%20to%20walk%20worthy%20(v.1-2)\c.%20With%20long-suffering) This involves patience and restraint which if not exercised will result in anger and evil conduct.

  [d.  With love (v.2d)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\1.%20The%20way%20to%20walk%20worthy%20(v.1-2)\d.%20With%20love) Everything must be motivated and inspired by love. Loving the saints is a mark of faith (I John 3:14).

[**2  The purpose for walking worthy: To keep the unity, the peace (v.3)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\2.%20The%20purpose%20for%20walking%20worthy:%20To%20keep%20the%20unity,%20the%20peace%20(v.3)) The word translated *"endeavoring"* means "make haste, do one's best". Thus it involves passion and zeal in the pursuit of unity. *"Keep” involves* guarding something. Unity in the church is often very fragile and needs protection, guarding, lest something kill it. *"The bond of peace"* the unity is bound together by peace.

[**3  The seven basic reasons (v.4-6)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\3.%20The%20seven%20basic%20reasons%20(v.4-6))

  [a.  Only one body (v.4a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\3.%20The%20seven%20basic%20reasons%20(v.4-6)\a.%20Only%20one%20body) When a person places his trust in Jesus Christ, God does six things to the believer that place him into the body of Christ:

⇒  God gives a new birth to the believer—quickens him spiritually—causes him to be born again (John 1:12-13; John 3:3-6; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:23; 1 John 5:1).

⇒  God makes a new creature, a new man out of the believer (2 Cor. 5:17; Ephes. 4:24; Col. 3:10).

⇒  God places His divine nature into the believer (2 Peter 1:4).

⇒  God puts His Holy Spirit into the believer, actually has His Spirit enter the believer's body. The believer's body becomes a temple for the presence of God's Spirit (John 14:16-17; 1 Cor. 3:16; 1 Cor. 6:19-20).

⇒  God causes the believer to bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit which is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, control (Galatians 5:22-23).

⇒  God places the believer into the new body of people He is creating, that is, into the body of Christ, His church.

  [b.  Only one Spirit (v.4b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\3.%20The%20seven%20basic%20reasons%20(v.4-6)\b.%20Only%20one%20Spirit) The same Spirit that dwells within one member of the body dwells in all members of the body..

  [c.  Only one hope (v.4c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\3.%20The%20seven%20basic%20reasons%20(v.4-6)\c.%20Only%20one%20hope) Every genuine believer has the same hope: the great day of redemption. It is to be a new world created perfectly for Christ Jesus and His people. Life in the new heavens and earth will be a life of love and joy and peace—a life of oneness and unity and brotherhood—all perfected.

  [d.  Only one Lord (v.5a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\3.%20The%20seven%20basic%20reasons%20(v.4-6)\d.%20Only%20one%20Lord) There is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

  [e.  Only one faith (v.5b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\3.%20The%20seven%20basic%20reasons%20(v.4-6)\e.%20Only%20one%20faith) Paul is not referring here to the act of faith by which a person is saved or the continuing faith that produces right living, but rather the body of doctrine revealed in the New Testament. In true Christianity there is only one faith, "the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints" and for which we are to contend (Jude 3.). Our one faith is the content of the revealed Word of God.

  [f.  Only one baptism (v.5c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\3.%20The%20seven%20basic%20reasons%20(v.4-6)\f.%20Only%20one%20baptism,%20v.5) This does not speak of water baptism. Rather it speaks of the baptism which every believer experiences when he is saved (I Corinthians 12:13). The KJV translators translated all the other *"one"* words but then they transliterated this word. The word means "one placing into" which speaks of placing the believer into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 12:13). It is the baptism into the church which is Christ's body.

  [g.  Only one God and Father of all (v.6)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\A.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Worthy%20of%20His%20Calling,%204:1-6\3.%20The%20seven%20basic%20reasons%20(v.4-6)\g.%20Only%20one%20God%20and%20Father%20of%20all) **God** the **Father** is often used in Scripture as the most comprehensive and inclusive divine title, though it is clear from many New Testament texts that He is never separated in nature or power from the Son or the Holy Spirit. Paul's point here is not to separate the Persons of the Godhead but to note their unique roles and yet focus on their unity in relation to each other and in relation to the church—manifested in the several different aspects mentioned in these three verses.

Our one God and Father, along with the Son and the Holy Spirit, is over all and through all and in all. That comprehensive statement points to the glorious, divine, eternal unity that the Father gives believers by His Spirit and through the Son. We are God created, God loved, God saved, God Fathered, God controlled, God sustained, God filled, and God blessed. We are one people under one sovereign (over all), omnipotent (through all), and omnipresent (in all) God.

[**B.  The Believer is to Walk by Using His Gifts, 4:7-16**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16)

[**1  Every believer is gifted (v.7)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\1.%20Every%20believer%20is%20gifted%20(v.7)) There is not a single believer exempted or left out; Christ has given every believer some spiritual gift. It is important to note what is meant by spiritual gifts. A spiritual gift does not mean the natural ability or talent of a person. God, of course, keeps natural abilities and talents in mind when He gifts a person, but spiritual gifts are special gifts given to believers. They are highly specialized gifts—gifts that are given to build up believers in the church and in witnessing and ministering to the world. The point to note is that every genuine believer has received a spiritual gift, a highly specialized gift. He has received his gift to carry out the ministry of the Lord upon the earth.

[**2  Every believer's gift has cost the greatest possible price (v.8-10)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\2.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20has%20cost%20the%20greatest%20possible%20price%20(v.8-10))

  [a.  The picture (v.8)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\2.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20has%20cost%20the%20greatest%20possible%20price%20(v.8-10)\a.%20The%20picture) The picture of Christ giving gifts to men is dramatic. It is the picture of an ancient king who has conquered his enemies. The king is sitting astride his white stallion and riding under the arch of triumph as he enters the city. Teeming thousands shout their adoration and praise. Following in his train is his army. And then following his army they come, the enemy stumbling along on foot in chains, looking like the defeated foe they are. They had initially come to fight tooth and nail to subject the people of the great king to their tyranny. But now they come to offer gifts to the great conqueror. The conqueror receives the gifts and in turn bestows the gifts upon his own people.

  [b.  The great cost: The death of Christ and His descending into the lower parts of the earth (v.9)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\2.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20has%20cost%20the%20greatest%20possible%20price%20(v.8-10)\b.%20The%20great%20cost:%20The%20death%20of%20Christ%20and%20His%20descending%20into%20the%20lower%20parts%20of%20the%20earth) The point is this: Jesus Christ had to die and experience hell for men in order to gain the right to gift men. That is the enormous price our gifts cost. If He had not died, then we could not be saved or gifted with spiritual gifts. There would be no purpose or significance to life—not beyond a few short years upon this earth. All we would have to look forward to would be death. But Christ has died, and He has conquered all the enemies of man—conquered them in order to gain the right to save and gift us.

  [c.  The great value: That Christ might fill all things—the whole universe with His presence (v.10)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\2.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20has%20cost%20the%20greatest%20possible%20price%20(v.8-10)\c.%20The%20great%20value:%20That%20Christ%20might%20fill%20all%20things--the%20whole%20universe%20with%20His%20presence) He died that He might ascend above the heavens and fill all things, that is, fill the whole universe with His presence. Jesus Christ is the Sovereign Majesty of the universe. He is seated at the right hand of God the Father, and He rules and reigns over all. He is now able to save and gift men. But remember: it is because He paid the greatest price possible. He died for us—died to gain the right to pour His grace and gifts out upon us.

[**3  Every believer's gift is Christ-centered (v.11)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\3.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20is%20Christ-centered%20(v.11)) It is Christ and Christ alone who gives spiritual gifts to men. Men cannot work up the gifts, nor give the gifts to other men. Christ alone possesses the spiritual gifts to give to men.

[**4  Every believer's gift has a threefold purpose (v.12-16)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\4.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20has%20a%20threefold%20purpose%20(v.12-16))

  [a.  An immediate purpose: To equip others (v.12)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\4.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20has%20a%20threefold%20purpose%20(v.12-16)\a.%20An%20immediate%20purpose:%20To%20equip%20others) The word "perfecting" (*katartismon*) means to equip for service and ministry. This is critical to see, for the office bearer in the church is not to be the only one who goes about doing the work of the ministry. In fact, his primary task is to be an equipper, a person who makes disciples and prepares others to serve Christ (see note, Discipleship—• Matthew 28:19-20). Note another critical point: the very purpose for equipping laymen is so that the body of Christ, the church, may be built up. This is a significant point, for it means that the church cannot be built up without the members themselves doing the work of the ministry. All believers within a church must be involved in the work of the ministry.

  [b.  An eternal purpose: To become a perfect man like Christ (v.13)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\4.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20has%20a%20threefold%20purpose%20(v.12-16)\b.%20An%20eternal%20purpose:%20To%20become%20a%20perfect%20man%20like%20Christ) Working to bring perfect unity amongst God’s people, the knowledge of God’s Son to the people, and the perfecting of maturity in the people.

  [c.  A personal purpose (v.14-16)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\4.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20has%20a%20threefold%20purpose%20(v.12-16)\c.%20A%20personal%20purpose)

  [1)  To no longer be children—immature (v.14)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\4.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20has%20a%20threefold%20purpose%20(v.12-16)\c.%20A%20personal%20purpose\1)%20To%20no%20longer%20be%20children--immature) Another purpose of the callings is to give the believers stability in the faith so they will not be led astray by false teaching.

  [2)  To grow up in all things—mature (v.15)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\4.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20has%20a%20threefold%20purpose%20(v.12-16)\c.%20A%20personal%20purpose\2)%20To%20grow%20up%20in%20all%20things--mature) This purpose emphasizes the believer becoming more and more like Jesus Christ. Christ is the pattern we must follow.

  [3)  To do his part in building up the church (v.16)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\B.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20by%20Using%20His%20Gifts,%204:7-16\4.%20Every%20believer's%20gift%20has%20a%20threefold%20purpose%20(v.12-16)\c.%20A%20personal%20purpose\3)%20To%20do%20his%20part%20in%20building%20up%20the%20church) Note that every joint or every believer "supplies" something to the body of Christ (the church). And what every joint or believer supplies is very significant. Note how the significance is stressed: Christ takes every joint or believer and the believer...

•  is fitly joined together with all the other believers.

•  has his work compacted with that supplied by other believers.

•  has an effective and productive work along with that measured by other believers.

•  helps to increase the body.

•  helps to edify the body in love.

[**C. The Believer is to Walk Differently From the Gentiles, 4:17-24**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24)

[**1  The believer is not to walk after the Gentiles, that is, as ungodly men (v.17-19)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\1.%20The%20believer%20is%20not%20to%20walk%20after%20the%20Gentiles,%20that%20is,%20as%20ungodly%20men%20(v.17-19))

  [a.  With emptiness of mind (v.17)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\1.%20The%20believer%20is%20not%20to%20walk%20after%20the%20Gentiles,%20that%20is,%20as%20ungodly%20men%20(v.17-19)\a.%20With%20emptiness%20of%20mind) The world has their standards, values, habits, and arguments (based on empty thinking—*"vanity of their mind").* The believer is not to pattern his life after this at all.

  [b.  With dark understanding (v.18a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\1.%20The%20believer%20is%20not%20to%20walk%20after%20the%20Gentiles,%20that%20is,%20as%20ungodly%20men%20(v.17-19)\b.%20With%20dark%20understanding) To understand means to grasp, comprehend, perceive. To be darkened means to be blinded and unable to see. The unbeliever does not grasp or understand God; his understanding is darkened and blinded and unable to see God. He often understands this world and the things of this world, and he gives his life over to the things of this world. But he is not able to understand God and His eternal plan for the world through the Lord Jesus Christ. Satan plays a part in the blindness of those who refuse to believe, because "the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God" (2 Cor. 4:4). They refuse to see Christ because they refuse to see God, and their refusal is readily confirmed and reinforced by the god of this world.

  [c.  Alienated from God (v.18b-c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\1.%20The%20believer%20is%20not%20to%20walk%20after%20the%20Gentiles,%20that%20is,%20as%20ungodly%20men%20(v.17-19)\c.%20Alienated%20from%20God) Unbelievers are spiritually dead and doomed to eternal death. "Alienated" means to be estranged, separated, cut off, detached.

  [1)  Because they are ignorant of God (v.18b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\1.%20The%20believer%20is%20not%20to%20walk%20after%20the%20Gentiles,%20that%20is,%20as%20ungodly%20men%20(v.17-19)\c.%20Alienated%20from%20God\1)%20Because%20they%20are%20ignorant%20of%20God) The Greek word behind **being darkened** is a perfect participle, indicating a continuing condition of spiritual darkness. This darkness implies both ignorance and immorality. And darkness of **understanding** is coupled with exclusion **from the life of God** (cf. John 1:5). The cause of their darkness, ignorance, and separation from God is **the hardness of their heart**, their willful determination to remain in sin. Because men determine to reject Him, God judicially and sovereignly determines to blind their minds, exclude them from His presence, and confirm them in their spiritual ignorance.

 [2)  Because hearts are hard (v.18c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\1.%20The%20believer%20is%20not%20to%20walk%20after%20the%20Gentiles,%20that%20is,%20as%20ungodly%20men%20(v.17-19)\c.%20Alienated%20from%20God\2)%20Because%20hearts%20are%20hard) the ungodly are unresponsive to truth (cf. Isa. 44:18-20; 1 Thess. 4:5) Just as a corpse cannot hear a conversation in the mortuary, the person who is spiritually "dead in [his] trespasses and sins" (Eph. 2:1) cannot hear or understand the things of God, no matter how loudly or clearly they may be declared or evidenced in his presence. *Pōrōsis* (**hardness**) carries the idea of being rock-hard. It was used by physicians to describe the calcification that forms around broken bones and becomes harder than the bone itself.

 [d.  Being past feeling (v.19a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\1.%20The%20believer%20is%20not%20to%20walk%20after%20the%20Gentiles,%20that%20is,%20as%20ungodly%20men%20(v.17-19)\d.%20Being%20past%20feeling) To be past feeling means to become callous, insensible, hardened. The more a person walks without God the more callous a person becomes to God. The more a person walks in sin, the more callous his conscience becomes to righteousness. Sin becomes more and more acceptable.

  [e.  Being given over to gross sensuality (v.19b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\1.%20The%20believer%20is%20not%20to%20walk%20after%20the%20Gentiles,%20that%20is,%20as%20ungodly%20men%20(v.17-19)\e.%20Being%20given%20over%20to%20gross%20sensuality) When people continue in sin and turn themselves away from the life of God, they become apathetic and insensitive about moral and spiritual things. They reject all standards of righteousness and do not care about the consequences of their unrighteous thoughts and actions. Even conscience becomes scarred with tissue that is not sensitive to wrong (1 Tim. 4:2; Titus 1:15).Sensuality refers to total licentiousness, the absence of all moral restraint, especially in the area of sexual sins.

  [f.  Indulging in all uncleanness with greediness (v.19c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\1.%20The%20believer%20is%20not%20to%20walk%20after%20the%20Gentiles,%20that%20is,%20as%20ungodly%20men%20(v.17-19)\f.%20Indulging%20in%20all%20uncleanness%20with%20greediness) unbounded covetousness, uninhibited lust for that which is wanted. The world of **sensuality** and **impurity** is the world of **greediness**. The person given over to godlessness and immorality greedily takes whatever he can from those around him. He evaluates life only in material terms (Luke 12:15), uses other people to his own advantage (1 Thess. 2:5; 2 Pet. 2:3), and turns his back on God in order to fulfill his own evil desires (Rom. 1:29).

[**2  The believer is to walk after Christ (v.20-24)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\2.%20The%20believer%20is%20to%20walk%20after%20Christ%20(v.20-24))

  [a.  The reason: He has learned about Christ—heard and been taught by Him (v.21)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\2.%20The%20believer%20is%20to%20walk%20after%20Christ%20(v.20-24)\a.%20The%20reason:%20He%20has%20learned%20about%20Christ--heard%20and%20been%20taught%20by%20Him)

  [b.  The way to walk in Christ (v.22-24)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\2.%20The%20believer%20is%20to%20walk%20after%20Christ%20(v.20-24)\b.%20The%20way%20to%20walk%20in%20Christ)

  [1)  Put off the old man (v.22)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\2.%20The%20believer%20is%20to%20walk%20after%20Christ%20(v.20-24)\b.%20The%20way%20to%20walk%20in%20Christ\1)%20Put%20off%20the%20old%20man) three things are taught about the old man in the Scriptures.

1.  The believer's old man has already been put to death. It was crucified with Christ ([Romans 6:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+6%3A6)). When the believer received Christ, God began immediately to count him buried with Christ and united with Christ in the very likeness of His death. This is the meaning symbolized in baptism.

2.  The deeds of the old man have been put off from the believer ([Col. 3:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+3%3A9)). The power of evil deeds has been broken and the believer is no longer in bondage to them.

3.  In this passage, the believer himself is exhorted to put off the old man. He is told to exercise his own will in putting off the old man.

  [2)  Be renewed in your mind (v.23)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\2.%20The%20believer%20is%20to%20walk%20after%20Christ%20(v.20-24)\b.%20The%20way%20to%20walk%20in%20Christ\2)%20Be%20renewed%20in%20your%20mind) the believers mind is to be renewed (*ananeousthai*[PWS: 3247](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=748&tocpath=R\#3247: Renewed)), which means to be made new, readjusted, changed, turned around, and regenerated.

1. The mind of man has been affected by sin. It desperately needs to be renewed. The mind is far from perfect.
2. The mind is renewed by the presence of Christ in the life of the believer.
3. The believer is to live a transformed life; that is, he is to walk day by day renewing his mind more and more. He is to allow the Spirit of Christ (the Holy Spirit) to focus his mind more and more upon God and spiritual things.

[3)  Put on the new man (v.24)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\C.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Differently%20From%20the%20Gentiles,%204:17-24\2.%20The%20believer%20is%20to%20walk%20after%20Christ%20(v.20-24)\b.%20The%20way%20to%20walk%20in%20Christ\3)%20Put%20on%20the%20new%20man) a man regenerated, renewed, born again who has become spiritually minded. It is a new man created by Christ; he has been given a holy nature and an incorruptible life. The process is that:

* God quickens the spirit of the believer and makes his spirit alive. Whereas the believer's spirit was dead to God, God creates it and makes it alive to God.
* God causes the believer to be born again spiritually.
* God actually places His divine nature into the heart of the believer.
* God actually creates a new man out of the believer.
* God renews the believer by the Holy Spirit.

[**D.  The Believer is to Walk Putting Off the Garments of the Old Man, 4:25-32**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32)

[**1  The garment of lying (v.25)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\1.%20The%20garment%20of%20lying%20(v.25))

  [a.  The charge: Put away (v.25a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\1.%20The%20garment%20of%20lying%20(v.25)\a.%20The%20charge:%20Put%20away) The word lying means that which is false. It is untruthfulness, deception, misrepresentation, exaggeration.

  [b.  The reason: Believers are one body (v.25b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\1.%20The%20garment%20of%20lying%20(v.25)\b.%20The%20reason:%20Believers%20are%20one%20body) The believer is to be altogether what he says. There is to be nothing covered, nothing hid, no shame, no pretense. He is to be exactly the same before men that he is in private and the same in private that he is before men. His life is not to be a lie.

[**2  The garment of anger (v.26-27)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\2.%20The%20garment%20of%20anger%20(v.26-27))

  [a.  The charge: Deal with (v.26)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\2.%20The%20garment%20of%20anger%20(v.26-27)\a.%20The%20charge:%20Deal%20with) There are times when anger is called for, but we are to guard against sinning when we become angry. Anger causes us to either react, lash out and hurt others, or else it motivates us to right wrongs and correct injustices.

  [b.  The reason: Can be the devil's foothold (v.27)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\2.%20The%20garment%20of%20anger%20(v.26-27)\b.%20The%20reason:%20Can%20be%20the%20devil's%20foothold) Note that the devil exploits selfish anger and uses it for his own ends. He sows discord and disturbance and dissension. Paul usually prefers to use the word "*satnas*" for Satan, but here he uses "*diabolos*." "*Diabolos*" means slanderer, a tale-bearer who murders reputations.

[**3  The garment of stealing (v.28)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\3.%20The%20garment%20of%20stealing%20(v.28))

  [a.  The charge: Work (v.28a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\3.%20The%20garment%20of%20stealing%20(v.28)\a.%20The%20charge:%20Work) Diligent work—working and working so that we can have enough to help others. This is the will of God: working in order to have enough to give away. Work is to be honest and to meet the necessities of one's family

  [b.  The reason: To help the needy (v.28b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\3.%20The%20garment%20of%20stealing%20(v.28)\b.%20The%20reason:%20To%20help%20the%20needy) Working just for self is selfish. And selfishness corrupts and leaves a person's heart and work empty and aimless. But working in order to help others in the name of Christ—this is the will of God. This is the only way the needs of the world can be met. Work is to be for the Lord's purpose and cause—the cause that provides the means to reach and to help people (1 John 3:17).

[**4  The garment of worthless talk (v.29)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\4.%20The%20garment%20of%20worthless%20talk%20(v.29))

  [a.  The charge: Speak only good (v.29a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\4.%20The%20garment%20of%20worthless%20talk%20(v.29)\a.%20The%20charge:%20Speak%20only%20good) refers to that which is corrupt or foul and was used of rotten fruit, vegetables, and other spoiled food. Foul language should never **proceed from** the **mouth** of a Christian, because it is totally out of character with his newness of life. **Unwholesome** language should be as repulsive to us as a rotten apple or a spoiled piece of meat. Off-color jokes, profanity, dirty stories, vulgarity, double entendre, and every other form of corrupt talk should never cross our lips.

  [b.  The reason: To build up others (v.29b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\4.%20The%20garment%20of%20worthless%20talk%20(v.29)\b.%20The%20reason:%20To%20build%20up%20others) Our speech should build up by being helpful, constructive, encouraging, instructive, and uplifting. Sometimes, of course, it must be corrective; but that, too, is edifying when done in the right spirit. Proverbs 25:12 admonishes: "Like an earring of gold and an ornament of fine gold is a wise reprover to a listening ear.

[**5  The garment of being contrary (v.30)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\5.%20The%20garment%20of%20being%20contrary%20(v.30))

  [a.  The charge: Grieve not the Holy Spirit (v.30a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\5.%20The%20garment%20of%20being%20contrary%20(v.30)\a.%20The%20charge:%20Grieve%20not%20the%20Holy%20Spirit) All sin is painful to God, but sin in His children breaks His heart. When His children refuse to change the ways of the old life for the ways of the new God grieves. **The Holy Spirit of God** weeps, as it were, when he sees Christians lying instead of speaking the truth, becoming unrighteously rather than righteously angry, stealing instead of sharing, and speaking corrupt instead of uplifting and gracious words.

  [b.  The reason: He seals us (v.30b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\5.%20The%20garment%20of%20being%20contrary%20(v.30)\b.%20The%20reason:%20He%20seals%20us) **The Holy Spirit** is God's personal mark of authenticity on us, His stamp of divine approval. How can we **grieve** the One who is our Helper, Comforter, Teacher, Advocate, Divine Resident of our hearts, and guarantor of our eternal redemption? How can we ungraciously grieve God's infinitely gracious **Holy Spirit?** He has done so much for us that, out of gratitude, we ought not to **grieve** Him.

[**6  The garments of unkindness (v.31)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\6.%20The%20garments%20of%20unkindness%20(v.31))

  [a.  The charge: Unclothe (v.31a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\6.%20The%20garments%20of%20unkindness%20(v.31)) this means to strip off, to no longer allow to be a part of your character. This is speaking of how we treat others. We can injure them with our tongue as well as our hands.

  [b.  The reason: God forgave you (v.31b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\6.%20The%20garments%20of%20unkindness%20(v.31)) If you find it hard to forgive, remember that God forgave you when you came to Jesus Christ. If God can forgive you, surely you can do the far lesser work of forgiving others who have done you wrong. Mankind has done more wrong to Christ than any man has ever done to any other man.

[**7  The garments of the new man (v.32)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\7.%20The%20garments%20of%20the%20new%20man%20(v.32))

  [a.  The charge: Clothe yourself (v.32a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\7.%20The%20garments%20of%20the%20new%20man%20(v.32)\a.%20The%20charge:%20Clothe%20yourself) 1.  The word "kind means to be gentle, caring, helpful, courteous, good, useful, giving, and showering favors upon people.

2.  The word "tenderhearted" means to show compassion, mercy, understanding, love, tenderness, and warmth. It means to be aware of a person's hurts and sufferings, problems and difficulties, emotions and mental state, physical and spiritual condition. It means to be tenderhearted toward them.

3.  The word "forgiving" means to be gracious to a person, to pardon him for some wrong done. Note that the person has done wrong; he has hurt and caused us pain. But the command is to still forgive him.

  [b.  The reason: You are forgiven (v.32b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\D.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Putting%20Off%20the%20Garments%20of%20the%20Old%20Man,%204:25-32\7.%20The%20garments%20of%20the%20new%20man%20(v.32)\b.%20The%20reason:%20You%20are%20forgiven) The reason we should forgive each other is because God has forgiven us. No matter how much a person has done against us, it does not come close to what we have done against God. Yet, God has forgiven us. Why? For Christ’s sake. Jesus Christ died for us—died for our sins so that we could be forgiven. Therefore, God forgives us. No matter what we have done, God forgives us when we want forgiveness. He forgives us despite our having rejected, cursed, ignored, neglected, and rebelled against Him.

[**E.  The Believer is to Walk Following God, 5:1-7**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7)

[**1  By becoming a follower of God (v.1)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7\1.%20By%20becoming%20a%20follower%20of%20God%20(v.1)) is the term from which we get *mimic*, someone who copies specific characteristics of another person. As **imitators of God**, Christians are to imitate God's characteristics. The whole of the Christian life is the reproduction of godliness as seen in the person of Christ. God's purpose in salvation is to redeem men from sin and to conform them "to the image of His Son" ([Rom. 8:29](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+8%3A29)). To be conformed to Christ is to become perfect, just as God is perfect ([Matt. 5:48](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+5%3A48)). "As obedient children," Peter tells us, "do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy'" ([1 Pet. 1:14-16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Pe+1%3A14-16); cf. [Lev. 11:44](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+11%3A44)).

[**2  By loving as Christ loved (v.2)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7\2.%20By%20loving%20as%20Christ%20loved%20(v.2)) the believer follows God, second, by loving as Christ loved.

  [a.  He made an offering to God—sacrificed Himself (v.2a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7\2.%20By%20loving%20as%20Christ%20loved%20(v.2)\a.%20He%20made%20an%20offering%20to%20God--sacrificed%20Himself) The phrase "gave Himself for us" is a simple phrase with profound meaning. It does not mean that Christ died only as an example for us, showing us how we should be willing to die for the truth or for some great cause. What it means is that Christ died in our place, in our stead, as our substitute.

  [b.  He became a sweet fragrance to God (v.2b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7\2.%20By%20loving%20as%20Christ%20loved%20(v.2)\b.%20He%20became%20a%20sweet%20fragrance%20to%20God)  The words "Christ gave Himself...an offering...to God for a sweet-smelling savour [smell]" gives a higher meaning to the death of Christ than just meeting our need. The word "offering" refers to the burnt offering of the Old Testament ([Leviticus 1:1f](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+1%3A1)). The burnt offering was given to God not merely because of sin, but because a person wished to glorify and honor God. The point is this: the believer is to walk in love, just as Christ has loved us and has given Himself as an offering and a sacrifice to God. The believer is to love so much that he gives himself as an offering and a sacrifice. There is to be no limit to the offerings and sacrifice of our lives to God and to men. Remember: God's love—*agapē* love—is always an acting love.

[**3  By being clean-bodied, that is, morally pure (v.3)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7\3.%20By%20being%20clean-bodied,%20that%20is,%20morally%20pure%20(v.3)) . *"Fornication"* - Illicit sexual activity is not love even though it is called "love making." The world often says they were so much in love that they had sex. That is not love but lust.

*"All uncleanness"* - This covers a multitude of sexual sins. You can include homosexualism under this sin, for homos practice the most foul of sexual activity.

*"Covetousness"* - This is an inordinate love for things earthly. Mostly we think of money here, for many show their covetousness in their greed for money. Gambling reflects the greediness of many. This spirit should not be part of a believer.

*"Let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints"* -The foul sins just mentioned are to be totally rejected.

[**4  By being clean-mouthed (v.4)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7\4.%20By%20being%20clean-mouthed%20(v.4)) . *"Neither filthiness* ['obscenity' says Strong], *nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient* [appropriate]; *but rather giving of thanks"* . The tongue of the redeemed should have no foul talk in it. The jesting here does not oppose sanctified humor but is often "obscene jesting", dirty stories and the like.

[**5  By knowing God's solemn warning (v.5-6)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7\5.%20By%20knowing%20God's%20solemn%20warning%20(v.5-6))

  [a.  Uncleanness has no part with God (v.5)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7\5.%20By%20knowing%20God's%20solemn%20warning%20(v.5-6)\a.%20Uncleanness%20has%20no%20part%20with%20God) *"No whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man... hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God... for because of these things cometh the wrath of God"*

  [b.  There are deceivers (v.6a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7\5.%20By%20knowing%20God's%20solemn%20warning%20(v.5-6)\b.%20There%20are%20deceivers) *"Let no man deceive you with vain words"* Perverted love is so deceptive. It causes many people to think it is real love.

  [c.  The wrath of God is coming (v.6b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7\5.%20By%20knowing%20God's%20solemn%20warning%20(v.5-6)\c.%20The%20wrath%20of%20God%20is%20coming) The consequences of perverted love are eternal poverty and punishment.

[**6  By separating himself from the unclean (v.7)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\E.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Following%20God,%205:1-7\6.%20By%20separating%20himself%20from%20the%20unclean%20(v.7)) *"Be not ye therefore partakers with them"* - Do not keep company with those who pervert love. Bad company produces bad deeds.

[**F.  The Believer is to Walk as a Child of Light, 5:8-14**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\F.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20as%20a%20Child%20of%20Light,%205:8-14) Scripture speaks of God as our "light and... salvation" ([Ps. 27:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+27%3A1)) and as "an everlasting light" ([Isa. 60:19](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Isa+60%3A19)). His Word is called "a lamp to [our] feet, and a light to [our] path" ([Ps. 119:105](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+119%3A105); cf. [v. 130](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+119%3A130)) Christ is called "a light of the nations" ([Isa. 49:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Isa+49%3A6)), "the true light which... enlightens every man" ([John 1:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+1%3A9)), and "the light of the world" ([John 8:12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+8%3A12)). For a believer to imitate God, therefore, he obviously must share in and reflect God's light.

[**1  Light, not darkness, is the nature of believers (v.8)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\F.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20as%20a%20Child%20of%20Light,%205:8-14\1.%20Light,%20not%20darkness,%20is%20the%20nature%20of%20believers%20(v.8)) Christ "delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son" ([Col. 1:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+1%3A13)), and He has "called [us] out of darkness into His marvelous light" ([1 Pet. 2:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Pe+2%3A9)). "You *are* the light of the world," Jesus said ([Matt. 5:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+5%3A14)). Because we now share Christ's own nature, we share in His light. Just as He is the "light of the world" ([John 8:12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+8%3A12)), His people are also "the light of the world" ([Matt. 5:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+5%3A14)). Because we are *in the Lord*, we who were once children of darkness are now *children of light*, and it is as such children that we should *walk*.

[**2  Light bears the things of life—the fruit of the Spirit (v.9)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\F.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20as%20a%20Child%20of%20Light,%205:8-14\2.%20Light%20bears%20the%20things%20of%20life--the%20fruit%20of%20the%20Spirit%20(v.9)) When a person receives Christ as Savior the Holy Spirit begins to dwell in that person. His presence gives power for holiness of conduct. Thus a believer (a person in the light) should exhibit holiness of conduct because of the presence of the Holy Spirit in his life.

[**3  Light shows what is acceptable (v.10)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\F.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20as%20a%20Child%20of%20Light,%205:8-14\3.%20Light%20shows%20what%20is%20acceptable%20(v.10)) light proves things; it shows what is acceptable. What does this mean? As the believer walks in the light...

•  he proves what is acceptable and not acceptable to the Lord.

•  he discriminates between what is acceptable and not acceptable to the Lord.

•  he shows to the world what is acceptable and not acceptable to the Lord.

•  he shows what path to take and what path not to take.

[**4  Light exposes the works of darkness (v.11-12)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\F.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20as%20a%20Child%20of%20Light,%205:8-14\4.%20Light%20exposes%20the%20works%20of%20darkness%20(v.11-12))

  [a.  The charge: Have no fellowship with darkness (v.11)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\F.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20as%20a%20Child%20of%20Light,%205:8-14\4.%20Light%20exposes%20the%20works%20of%20darkness%20(v.11-12)\a.%20The%20charge:%20Have%20no%20fellowship%20with%20darkness) "to become a partaker together with others." The child of light should not become involved in evil even by association. We cannot witness to the world if we do not go out into the world; and we cannot go far into the world before coming in contact with all sorts of wickedness. But we are never to identify with that wickedness or give it opportunity to take hold in our own life. To compromise God's standards is to weaken our witness as well as our character. No act of unrighteousness is permissible.

  [b.  The reason: It is a shame to even speak of the things done in secret (v.12)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\F.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20as%20a%20Child%20of%20Light,%205:8-14\4.%20Light%20exposes%20the%20works%20of%20darkness%20(v.11-12)\b.%20The%20reason:%20It%20is%20a%20shame%20to%20even%20speak%20of%20the%20things%20done%20in%20secret) Some things are so vile that they should be discussed in as little detail as possible, because even describing them is morally and spiritually dangerous. Some things are so spiritually **disgraceful** and dangerous that they should be sealed off not only from direct contact but even from conversation. They should be exposed only to the extent necessary to be rid of them.

[**5  Light reveals and converts everything it touches (v.13)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\F.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20as%20a%20Child%20of%20Light,%205:8-14\5.%20Light%20reveals%20and%20converts%20everything%20it%20touches%20(v.13)) Our resource for exposing evil is Scripture, which is the light ([Ps. 119:105](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+119%3A105), [130](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+119%3A130); [Prov. 6:23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+6%3A23); [Heb. 4:13-13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+4%3A13)) and is "profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness" ([2 Tim. 3:16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ti+3%3A16)). All things become visible when they are exposed by the light of God's Word. Our commission as children of light is to hold everything up to the light of Scripture, to expose and seek to remedy whatever is evil.

[**6  Light awakens the sleeping (v.14)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\F.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20as%20a%20Child%20of%20Light,%205:8-14\6.%20Light%20awakens%20the%20sleeping%20(v.14))

  [a.  The challenge: Arise from the dead (v.14a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\F.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20as%20a%20Child%20of%20Light,%205:8-14\6.%20Light%20awakens%20the%20sleeping%20(v.14)) is a summons to repentance, an appeal to turn away from the dead ways of sin.

  [b.  How: By Christ (v.14b](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\F.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20as%20a%20Child%20of%20Light,%205:8-14\6.%20Light%20awakens%20the%20sleeping%20(v.14))) **Christ will shine on you** is the good news that God has provided a remedy for every sinful person who will come to Him through His blessed Son, the Savior of mankind.

[**G.  The Believer is to Walk Carefully and Strictly, 5:15-21**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\G.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Carefully%20and%20Strictly,%205:15-21)

[**1  By looking around and watching every step (v.15)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\G.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Carefully%20and%20Strictly,%205:15-21\1.%20By%20looking%20around%20and%20watching%20every%20step%20(v.15)) Scripture defines a fool as a person who says "in his heart, 'There is no God'" and who is morally corrupt, doing "abominable deeds" ([Ps. 14:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+14%3A1)). The fool is the person who lives apart from God—either as a theological or practical atheist or as both, denying God by his actions as well as his words. The supreme fool is the person who has anti-God thinking and living patterns.

[**2  By redeeming the time (v.16)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\G.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Carefully%20and%20Strictly,%205:15-21\2.%20By%20redeeming%20the%20time%20(v.16)) to live like the people they are. In Christ we are one, we *are* separated, we *are* love, we *are* light, and we *are* wise—and what we do should correspond to what we are.

[**3  By understanding the Lord's will (v.17)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\G.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Carefully%20and%20Strictly,%205:15-21\3.%20By%20understanding%20the%20Lord's%20will%20(v.17)) Paul did not here use *chronos*, the term for clock **time**, the continuous time that is measured in hours, minutes, and seconds. He rather used *kairos*, which denotes a measured, allocated, fixed season or epoch. The idea of a fixed period is also seen in the use of the definite article in the Greek text, which refers to *the* **time**, a concept often found in Scripture (cf. [Ex. 9:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ex+9%3A5); [1 Pet. 1:17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Pe+1%3A17)). God has set boundaries to our lives, and our opportunity for service exists only within those boundaries.

[**4  By rejecting drunkenness (v.18a)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\G.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Carefully%20and%20Strictly,%205:15-21\4.%20By%20rejecting%20drunkenness%20(v.18)) Drunkenness is the clouding or disruption by alcohol of any part of a person's mind so that it affects his faculties. A person is drunk to the extent that alcohol has restricted or modified any part of his thinking or acting. Drunkenness has many degrees, but it begins when it starts to interrupt the normal functions of the body and mind. Dissipation, to which drunkenness inevitably leads, is from *asōtia*, which literally means "that which is unable to be saved." It was used of a person who was hopelessly and incurably sick and also was used of loose, profligate living, as in that of the prodigal son ([Luke 15:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lk+15%3A13)). Dissipation is therefore a form of self-destruction.

[**5  By being filled with the Spirit (v.18b-21)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\G.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Carefully%20and%20Strictly,%205:15-21\5.%20By%20being%20filled%20with%20the%20Spirit%20(v.18-21))

  [a.  A singing spirit (v.19)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\G.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Carefully%20and%20Strictly,%205:15-21\5.%20By%20being%20filled%20with%20the%20Spirit%20(v.18-21)\a.%20A%20singing%20spirit) The Spirit-filled life produces music. Whether he has a good voice or cannot carry a tune, the Spirit-filled Christian is a singing Christian. Nothing is more indicative of a fulfilled life, a contented soul, and a happy heart than the expression of song.

  [b.  A thankful and praying spirit (v.20)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\G.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Carefully%20and%20Strictly,%205:15-21\5.%20By%20being%20filled%20with%20the%20Spirit%20(v.18-21)\b.%20A%20thankful%20and%20praying%20spirit) And whether given as **psalms** about God's greatness, as **hymns** of Christ's redemption, or as **spiritual songs** of testimony of God's power, help, or comfort, such music is to be an expression of the Spirit-filled church. Whether given through the voice in **singing** or through instruments in **making melody**, that is the music that honors, glorifies, and pleases God..

  [c.  A submissive and respectful spirit (v.21)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\G.%20The%20Believer%20is%20to%20Walk%20Carefully%20and%20Strictly,%205:15-21\5.%20By%20being%20filled%20with%20the%20Spirit%20(v.18-21)\c.%20A%20submissive%20and%20respectful%20spirit) To be thankful **always** is to recognize God's control of our lives in every detail as He seeks to conform us to the image of His Son. To be thankless is to disregard God's control, Christ's lordship, and the Holy Spirit's filling.

[**H.  The Believing Wife and Husband are to Walk in a Spirit of Submission and Love, 5:22-33**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33)

[**1  The wife is to walk in a spirit of submission (v.22-24)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\1.%20The%20wife%20is%20to%20walk%20in%20a%20spirit%20of%20submission%20(v.22-24))

  [a.  To submit is God's will (v.22)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\1.%20The%20wife%20is%20to%20walk%20in%20a%20spirit%20of%20submission%20(v.22-24)\a.%20To%20submit%20is%20God's%20will) **Wives** is not qualified, and therefore applies to every Christian wife, regardless of her social standing, education, intelligence, spiritual maturity or giftedness, age, experience, or any other consideration. Nor is it qualified by her husband's intelligence, character, attitude, spiritual condition, or any other consideration. Paul says categorically to *all* believing wives: **be subject to your own husbands**.

The wife is not commanded to obey her husband, as children are to obey their parents and slaves their masters ([6:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+6%3A1), [5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+6%3A5)). A husband is not to treat his wife as a servant or as a child, but as an equal for whom God has given him care and responsibility for provision and protection, to be exercised in love. She is not his to order about, responding to his every wish and command.

  [b.  To submit is God's order for the family (v.23a-b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\1.%20The%20wife%20is%20to%20walk%20in%20a%20spirit%20of%20submission%20(v.22-24)\b.%20To%20submit%20is%20God's%20order%20for%20the%20family) The wife's supreme motive for submitting to her husband is the fact that he is her functional head in the family, just **as Christ also is the head of the church** (cf. [1 Cor. 11:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Co+11%3A3); [Col. 1:18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+1%3A18); and see [Eph. 1:22-23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+1%3A22-23)). The head gives direction and the body responds. A physical body that does not respond to the direction of the head is crippled, paralyzed, or spastic. Likewise, a wife who does not properly respond to the direction of her husband manifests a serious spiritual dysfunction.

  [1)  The husband is the head (v.23a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\1.%20The%20wife%20is%20to%20walk%20in%20a%20spirit%20of%20submission%20(v.22-24)\b.%20To%20submit%20is%20God's%20order%20for%20the%20family\1)%20The%20husband%20is%20the%20head)  The great pattern for the wife to follow is Christ and the church. Christ is the head of the church. This simply means that Christ has authority over the church. So long as the church lives by this rule, the church experiences love and joy and peace—orderliness—and it is able to carry out its function and mission on earth to the fullest. So it is with the husband; he is the head of the family, the ultimate authority in the family. The wife is to be submissive to that authority just as the church is to be submissive to Christ. So long as she and the rest of the family live by this rule, the family experiences love, joy, and peace—orderliness—and it fulfills its function and purpose on earth. This, of course, assumes that the husband is fulfilling his part in the family. As in any organization, each member must do his part for the organization to be orderly and accomplish its purpose.

  [2)  The husband is the savior (v.23b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\1.%20The%20wife%20is%20to%20walk%20in%20a%20spirit%20of%20submission%20(v.22-24)\b.%20To%20submit%20is%20God's%20order%20for%20the%20family\2)%20The%20husband%20is%20the%20savior)  The husband is the savior of the body just as Christ is the Savior of the church. Christ is the great Protector and Comforter of the church. So the husband is to be the protector and comforter of the wife. By nature, that is, by the constitution and build of the body, the husband is stronger than the wife. Therefore, in God's order of things, he is to be the main protector and comforter of the wife. These two functions are two of the great benefits which the wife receives from a loving husband who is faithful to the Lord.

  [c.  To submit is a spiritual mystery; comparable to Christ and the church (v.23c-24)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\1.%20The%20wife%20is%20to%20walk%20in%20a%20spirit%20of%20submission%20(v.22-24)\c.%20To%20submit%20is%20a%20spiritual%20mystery;%20comparable%20to%20Christ%20and%20the%20church,%20v.23-24) In summary, the submission that wives are to show to their husbands is an example of the submission that all believers are to show to one another ([Ephes. 5:21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+5%3A21)). It does not mean that women are inferior to men. It simply means that there is to be an arrangement, an order in the household. Every body must have such order, and every body must have a head. Two heads in any body or organization would be a monstrosity and make for disorder. Therefore, in God's order of things for the family, the husband is the head over the family. He arranges things in a spirit of tenderness and love and the wife is to submit herself in a sweet spirit of understanding and reasonableness.

[**2  The husband is to love his wife (v.25-33)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33))

  [a.  It means to give yourself for her—to sacrifice yourself totally (v.25-27)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\a.%20It%20means%20to%20give%20yourself%20for%20her--to%20sacrifice%20yourself%20totally)  The love which the husband is to have for his wife is the very love of God Himself (*agapē*love). *Agapē* love is a selfless and unselfish love, a giving and sacrificial love. It is the love of the mind and will as well as of the heart. It is not only a love of affection and feelings; it is a love of the will and commitment. It is a love that wills and commits itself to love a person. It is the love that works for the highest good of the person loved.

  [1)  Involves being set apart and cleansed (v.26)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\a.%20It%20means%20to%20give%20yourself%20for%20her--to%20sacrifice%20yourself%20totally\1)%20Involves%20being%20set%20apart%20and%20cleansed) The husband's love involves being set apart and cleansed. The word sanctify means to be set apart. When a young man asks a young lady to be his wife, he sets himself apart for her and for her alone. His word, his act, his promise of marriage also causes her to set herself apart. When he speaks the word and makes the promise of marriage, he and she both are thereafter set apart and cleansed for each other.

  [2)  Involves having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing (v.27a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\a.%20It%20means%20to%20give%20yourself%20for%20her--to%20sacrifice%20yourself%20totally\2)%20Involves%20having%20no%20spot%20or%20wrinkle%20or%20any%20such%20thing) The husband's love involves having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing. Spots would mean the mistakes that tarnish one's life and marriage, mistakes so serious that they are very difficult to wash off one's body and out of one's mind.

  [3)  Involves being holy and without blemish (v.27b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\a.%20It%20means%20to%20give%20yourself%20for%20her--to%20sacrifice%20yourself%20totally\3)%20Involves%20being%20holy%20and%20without%20blemish) The word "holy" (*hagia*) means to be separate and untouched by evil. The husband's love—if it is a real love—will stir him to be holy and unblemished and go a long way in stirring his wife to be holy and without blemish.

  [b.  It means to love her as you love your own body (v.28-30)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\b.%20It%20means%20to%20love%20her%20as%20you%20love%20your%20own%20body)  [To nourish and cherish her (v.29)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\b.%20It%20means%20to%20love%20her%20as%20you%20love%20your%20own%20body\1)%20To%20nourish%20and%20cherish%20her) The word "nourish" means to feed, clothe, nurture, and look after until she is mature in the marriage and then to continue nourishing her as long as she lives. The word "cherish" means to hold ever so dear within the heart; to treat with warmth, tenderness, care, affection, and appreciation.

  [2)  To become one body, one flesh, one set of bones (v.30)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\b.%20It%20means%20to%20love%20her%20as%20you%20love%20your%20own%20body\2)%20To%20become%20one%20body,%20one%20flesh,%20one%20set%20of%20bones) This means that he is to become one body, one flesh and one set of bones with his wife. Two people could never become any closer. This is complete absorption and assimilation of each into the other—a complete union and oneness.

  [c.  It means to leave your parents (v.31)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\c.%20It%20means%20to%20leave%20your%20parents) The love which the husband is to have for his wife is to be the love that will stir him to leave his parents and be joined to his wife .

  [1)  To cleave to your wife (v.31a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\c.%20It%20means%20to%20leave%20your%20parents) literally means to be glued or cemented together. Husbands and wives are to **leave** their parents and to **cleave** to, be cemented to, each other. They break one set of ties as they establish the other, and the second is more binding and permanent than the first.

  [2)  To become one flesh (v.31b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\c.%20It%20means%20to%20leave%20your%20parents) They seek to be joined "as one flesh," no matter the surrender and sacrifice required. The meshing together is done by God. God takes such deliberate purpose and behavior, such a melting of one's being, and moulds it into the flesh of the other—so much so the two actually become as one, not only physically and mentally, but spiritually as well.

  [d.  It means a mystery—a spiritual love like the love of Christ for the church (v.32)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\d.%20It%20means%20a%20mystery--a%20spiritual%20love%20like%20the%20love%20of%20Christ%20for%20the%20church) this magnificent picture that men could never discover and that was unknown to the saints of the Old Covenant but is now revealed—**is great**. God's new people, **the church**, are brought into His kingdom and His family through faith in **Christ**. He is the Bridegroom and they are His bride.

  [e.  The conclusion (v.33)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\e.%20The%20conclusion) The conclusion is simple and straightforward: the husband is to love his wife as himself, and the wife is to reverence (respect and esteem) her husband.

  [1)  Husband: Love your wife (v.33a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\e.%20The%20conclusion)

  [2)  Wife: Respect your husband (v.33b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\H.%20The%20Believing%20Wife%20and%20Husband%20are%20to%20Walk%20in%20a%20Spirit%20of%20Submission%20and%20Love,%205:22-33\2.%20The%20husband%20is%20to%20love%20his%20wife%20(v.25-33)\e.%20The%20conclusion)

[**I.  Believing Children and Parents are to Walk Under God's Authority, 6:1-4**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\I.%20Believing%20Children%20and%20Parents%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:1-4)

[**1  Believing children are to obey (v.1-3)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\I.%20Believing%20Children%20and%20Parents%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:1-4\1.%20Believing%20children%20are%20to%20obey%20(v.1-3)) does not refer particularly to young children but to all offspring.

  [a.  To obey "in the Lord" (v.1)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\I.%20Believing%20Children%20and%20Parents%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:1-4\1.%20Believing%20children%20are%20to%20obey%20(v.1-3)\a.%20To%20obey%20%22in%20the%20Lord%22) literally means "to hear under," that is, to listen with attentiveness and to respond positively to what is heard. Children are to put themselves under the words and authority of their parents. **In the Lord** refers to the sphere of pleasing the Lord, to obeying **parents** for the Lord's sake. Children **obey** their parents as reflective of their obedience to the Lord.

  [b.  To obey is to honor (v.2-3)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\I.%20Believing%20Children%20and%20Parents%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:1-4\1.%20Believing%20children%20are%20to%20obey%20(v.1-3)\b.%20To%20obey%20is%20to%20honor) **Obey** has to do with action, and **honor** has to do with attitude. We are to honor our fathers and mothers: to esteem and value them as precious—to respect and reverence them.

  [1)  Assures the care of God (v.3a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\I.%20Believing%20Children%20and%20Parents%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:1-4\1.%20Believing%20children%20are%20to%20obey%20(v.1-3)\b.%20To%20obey%20is%20to%20honor\1)%20Assures%20the%20care%20of%20God) Does this mean that the child will never have problems or have to suffer? No! This is not what the Scripture means. God means that He will be with the child, strengthen and take care of him so that he can walk through the trials of life victoriously. The child will be strengthened and made strong where it counts—in the inner man. He will be enabled to conquer and be victorious over whatever confronts him as he journeys through life..

  [2)  Assures long life (v.3b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\I.%20Believing%20Children%20and%20Parents%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:1-4\1.%20Believing%20children%20are%20to%20obey%20(v.1-3)\b.%20To%20obey%20is%20to%20honor\2)%20Assures%20long%20life) the believer who honors his parents can know that his lifetime will be the full measure God intends, rather than cut short like those of Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:5-10) and certain members of the church at Corinth (1 Cor. 11:30).

[**2  Believing parents are not to provoke their children, but to nurture them in the Lord (v.4)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\I.%20Believing%20Children%20and%20Parents%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:1-4\2.%20Believing%20parents%20are%20not%20to%20provoke%20their%20children,%20but%20to%20nurture%20them%20in%20the%20Lord%20(v.4)) **To provoke... to anger** suggests a repeated, ongoing pattern of treatment that gradually builds up a deep-seated anger and resentment that boils over in outward hostility. The following are ways to prove your children:

* Parents who smother their children, overly restrict where they can go and what they can do, never trust them to do things on their own, and continually question their judgment build a barrier between themselves and their children—usually under the delusion that they are building a closer relationship. Children need careful guidance and certain restrictions, but they are individual human beings in their own right and must learn to make decisions on their own, corresponding with their age and maturity.
* Another common cause of provoking children to anger is favoritism. Isaac favored Esau over Jacob and Rebekah preferred Jacob over Esau. That dual and conflicting favoritism not only caused great trouble for the immediate family but has continued to have repercussions in the conflicts between the descendants of Jacob and Esau until our present day!
* A third way parents provoke their children is by pushing achievement beyond reasonable bounds. A child can be so pressured to achieve that he is virtually destroyed. He quickly learns that nothing he does is sufficient to please his parents.
* A fourth way children are provoked is by discouragement. A child who is never complimented or encouraged by his parents is destined for trouble. If he is always told what is wrong with him and never what is right, he will soon lose hope and become convinced that he is incapable of doing anything right.
* A fifth way provocation occurs is by parents' failing to sacrifice for their children and making them feel unwanted. Children who are made to feel that they are an intrusion, that they are always in the way and interfere with the plans and happiness of the parents, cannot help becoming resentful.
* A sixth form of provocation comes from failing to let children grow up at a normal pace. Chiding them for always acting childish, even when what they do is perfectly normal and harmless, does not contribute to their maturity but rather helps confirm them in their childishness.
* A seventh way of angering children is that of using love as a tool of reward or punishment—granting it when a child is good and withdrawing it when he is bad.
* An eighth way to provoke children is by physical and verbal abuse.

[**J.  Believing Slaves and Masters (Employers—Employees) are to Walk Under God's Authority, 6:5-9**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9)

[**1  The workman: To obey (v.5-8)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9\1.%20The%20workman:%20To%20obey%20(v.5-8))

  [a.  With fear and trembling (v.5a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9\1.%20The%20workman:%20To%20obey%20(v.5-8)\a.%20With%20fear%20and%20trembling) The idea is not that of cowering fright but of the honor and respect that make a person anxious to please. If he cannot honor and respect his employer for the employer's own sake, he respects him for the Lord's sake as one under whom he is to submit. .In ancient history, a person could become a slave in three different ways.

1. By being conquered by an army, a person could become a slave.
2. A person could be born into slavery if the parents were slaves.
3. A person could become a slave because of debt. People who were poor would sometimes sell their children into slavery in order to pay their debts. If a Jewish family did this, the person was freed from slavery in the Year of Jubilee which occurred every 50 years.

  [b.  In singleness of heart—as to Christ (v.5b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9\1.%20The%20workman:%20To%20obey%20(v.5-8)\b.%20In%20singleness%20of%20heart--as%20to%20Christ) It is not hypocritical and superficial but genuine and thorough. A Christian's primary concern about his job should be simply to do it well to the glory of God, **as to Christ**.

  [c.  Not with eyeservice—as menpleasers (v.6a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9\1.%20The%20workman:%20To%20obey%20(v.5-8)\c.%20Not%20with%20eyeservice--as%20menpleasers) The faithful believer does not simply do the minimum his job requires, much less work only when his supervisor or other workers are watching. He does not do a good job to make an impression on other people.

  [d.  As the servants of Christ doing the will of God (v.6b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9\1.%20The%20workman:%20To%20obey%20(v.5-8)\d.%20As%20the%20servants%20of%20Christ%20doing%20the%20will%20of%20God) He works diligently because to do so is **the will of God** and is the sincere desire of his own **heart**.

  [e.  With good will—for the employer (v.7)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9\1.%20The%20workman:%20To%20obey%20(v.5-8)\e.%20With%20good%20will--for%20the%20employer) **With good will** expresses the attitude of the worker who does not need prompting or compelling. When a Christian is where God wants him to be and is obedient to **render service, as to the Lord**, that is the most challenging, productive, and rewarding place to be.

  [f.  Result: Shall be rewarded—receive a reciprocal reward (v.8)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9\1.%20The%20workman:%20To%20obey%20(v.5-8)\f.%20Result:%20Shall%20be%20rewarded--receive%20a%20reciprocal%20reward) An employer may not appreciate or even be aware of the good work done, perhaps because he is indifferent or because someone else takes credit for what is done. But God knows and God rewards. No good thing done in His name and for His glory can pass His notice or fail to receive His blessings.

[**2  The employer (v.9)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9\2.%20The%20employer%20(v.9))

  [a.  Is to do the same things as the Christian workman (v.9a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9\2.%20The%20employer%20(v.9)\a.%20Is%20to%20do%20the%20same%20things%20as%20the%20Christian%20workman) A Christian employer's relationship to his employees should have the same motivation and goal as a Christian worker's relationship to his employer: the desire to obey and please the Lord. An employer is to use his authority "as to the Lord," just as workers are to submit to authority "as to the Lord." That is an expression of their mutual submission in being "subject to one another in the fear of Christ. The Spirit-filled employer is careful to **give up threatening**.

  [b.  Is to forbear threats (v.9b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9\2.%20The%20employer%20(v.9)\b.%20Is%20to%20forbear%20threats) The term used suggests the idea of loosening up, or releasing. He uses his authority and power as little as possible and does not throw his weight around or lord it over those under him. He is never abusive or inconsiderate

  [c.  The reason: God is his master and God is going to judge everyone (v.9c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\IV.%20THE%20WALK%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%204:1-6:9\J.%20Believing%20Slaves%20and%20Masters%20(Employers--Employees)%20are%20to%20Walk%20Under%20God's%20Authority,%206:5-9\2.%20The%20employer%20(v.9)\c.%20The%20reason:%20God%20is%20his%20master%20and%20God%20is%20going%20to%20judge%20everyone) . He realizes that his own authority, though God-given, is strictly functional and temporary. He knows that he and his workers alike are under the supreme authority of God, **that their Master** and his is not on earth but **in heaven**. The faithful Christian employer knows that he is a fellow servant of Jesus Christ with his employees, and is accountable to the same **Master**.

[**V. THE WARFARE OF THE CHRISTIAN BELIEVER, 6:10-24**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24)

[**A.  The Armour of the Christian Soldier, 6:10-20**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20)

[**1  The soldier's charge (v.10-11a)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\1.%20The%20soldier's%20charge%20(v.10-11))

  [a.  Be strong in the Lord—in the power of His might (v.10)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\1.%20The%20soldier's%20charge%20(v.10-11)\a.%20Be%20strong%20in%20the%20Lord--in%20the%20power%20of%20His%20might) Basic to the effective Christian life is preparation. The unprepared believer becomes the defeated believer who seeks to serve the Lord in his own wisdom and power. The strength of the Christian life is dependence on God, being **strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might**. Any other strength proves to be, impotent.

  [b.  Put on the whole armour of God (v.11a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\1.%20The%20soldier's%20charge%20(v.10-11)\b.%20Put%20on%20the%20whole%20armour%20of%20God) *"Put on."* In order to be protected in battle, soldiers in the day of Rome wore considerable armor. This armor was often heavy and cumbersome to wear but the wise soldier never argued about the inconvenience of the armor. He knew it could be the difference between life and death. Spiritually the armor will seem cumbersome and carnality will want it removed, but put it on or you will be a victim not a victor. *"Put on the whole armor."* This is total commitment to the Lord. All pieces of the armor are important. Some, however, would leave off the most cumbersome pieces.

[**2  The soldier's enemy: The devil and his strategies (v.11b)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\2.%20The%20soldier's%20enemy:%20The%20devil%20and%20his%20strategies%20(v.11)) The enemy against which we need God's strength and armor is Satan, **the devil**. Because he is God's enemy, he is our enemy, and the only way he can attack God is through us. We can therefore be sure that he will seek us out and attack us with his **schemes**.

*Wiles* carries the idea of craftiness, cunning, and deception (see also [4:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+4%3A14)). The term was often used of a wild animal who cunningly stalked and then unexpectedly pounced on its prey.

Scripture is clear about Satan's very real and personal existence. He was once the chief angel, the anointed cherub, the star of the morning, who sparkled with all the jewels of created beauty—until he rebelled against his Creator and tried to usurp His power and glory (see [Isa. 14:12-17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Isa+14%3A12-17); [Ezek. 28:1-10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eze+28%3A1-10); [Rev. 12:7-9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rev+12%3A7-9)). He first appears in Scripture in the form of a serpent, as he tempted Adam and Eve ([Gen. 3:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+3%3A1)). Jesus not only spoke about Satan ([Luke 10:18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lk+10%3A18); [John 8:44](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+8%3A44); [12:31](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+12%3A31)) but spoke with him ([Matt. 4:3-10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+4%3A3-10)). Paul, Peter, James, John, and the writer of Hebrews all speak of him as a personal being ([Rom. 16:20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+16%3A20); [2 Cor. 2:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Co+2%3A11); [1 Thess. 2:18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Th+2%3A18); [Heb. 2:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+2%3A14); [James 4:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jas+4%3A7); [1 Pet. 5:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Pe+5%3A8); [Rev 12:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rev+12%3A9)). We see him opposing God's work ([Zech. 3:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Zec+3%3A1)), perverting God's Word ([Matt. 4:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+4%3A6)), hindering God's servant ([1 Thess. 2:18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Th+2%3A18)), hindering the gospel ([2 Cor. 4:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Co+4%3A4)), snaring the wicked ([1 Tim. 3:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Ti+3%3A7)), appearing as an angel of light ([2 Cor. 11:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Co+11%3A14)), and fighting with the archangel Michael ([Jude 9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jude+1%3A9)). He brought sin into the world and the whole world now lies in his power ([1 John 5:19](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Jn+5%3A19)).

The Bible refers to **the devil** by such personal names and descriptions as "the anointed cherub" ([Ezek. 28:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eze+28%3A14)), "the ruler of demons" ([Luke 11:15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lk+11%3A15)), "the ruler of this world" ([John 16:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+16%3A11)), "the god of this world" ([2 Cor. 4:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Co+4%3A4)), "the prince of the power of the air" ([Eph. 2:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+2%3A2)), and numerous others. He is identified as the great dragon, a roaring lion, the vile one, the tempter, the accuser, and the spirit working in the sons of disobedience. Fifty-two times he is called Satan, which means "adversary," and thirty-five times the devil, which means "slanderer." This fallen archangel and his fallen angels who became demons have been tempting and corrupting mankind since the Fall. They are an evil, formidable, cunning, powerful, and invisible foe against whom no human being in his own power and resources is a match.

[**3  The soldier's warfare: Not human, but spiritual (v.12)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\3.%20The%20soldier's%20warfare:%20Not%20human,%20but%20spiritual%20(v.12)) **Rulers,… powers,… world forces of this darkness,…** and **spiritual forces of wickedness** describe the different strata and rankings of those demons and the evil, supernatural empire in which they operate. The demonic categories are not explained, but **rulers** no doubt reflects a high order of demons (linked with "authorities" in [Col. 2:15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+2%3A15)), **powers** are another rank (mentioned in [1 Pet. 3:22](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Pe+3%3A22)), and **world forces of this darkness** perhaps refers to demons who have infiltrated various political systems of the world, attempting to pattern them after Satan's realm of darkness (see [Dan. 10:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Da+10%3A13); [Col. 1:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+1%3A13)The **spiritual forces of wickedness** are possibly those demons who are involved in the most wretched and vile immoralities—such as extremely perverse sexual practices, the occult, Satan worship, and the like.

[**4  The soldier's duty:To take the whole armour of God (v.13)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\4.%20The%20soldier's%20duty:To%20take%20the%20whole%20armour%20of%20God%20(v.13))

  [a.  That he may withstand in the evil day (v.13a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\4.%20The%20soldier's%20duty:To%20take%20the%20whole%20armour%20of%20God%20(v.13)) Every day since the Fall has been an **evil day** for mankind, and every day will continue to be evil until the usurper and his forces are thrown forever into the bottomless pit. In the meanwhile the Lord makes us **able to resist in the evil day** as we take advantage of the **armor** He supplies.

  [b.  That he may stand (v.13b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\4.%20The%20soldier's%20duty:To%20take%20the%20whole%20armour%20of%20God%20(v.13)) Some believers **have done everything** well in the Lord's work, but they do not continue to **stand firm**. The issue is not in what a believer has done, but, when the battle is over and the smoke clears, whether he is found standing true to the Savior.

[**5  The soldier's armour (v.14-17)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\5.%20The%20soldier's%20armour%20(v.14-17))

  [a.  The belt of truth (v.14a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\5.%20The%20soldier's%20armour%20(v.14-17)\a.%20The%20belt%20of%20truth) The belt that **girded** it all securely together and demonstrates the believer's readiness for war is **truth**. *Alētheia* (**truth**) basically refers to the content of that which is true. The content of God's **truth** is absolutely essential for the believer in his battle against the schemes of Satan. Without knowledge of biblical teaching, he is, as the apostle has already pointed out, subject to being "carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming" ([4:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+4%3A14)).

  [b.  The breastplate of righteousness (v.14b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\5.%20The%20soldier's%20armour%20(v.14-17)\b.%20The%20breastplate%20of%20righteousness) The protection against those attacks of Satan is **the breastplate of righteousness**. **Righteousness** is to be taken and wrapped around our whole being, as it were, just as ancient soldiers covered themselves with breastplates of armor. The **breastplate of righteousness** that we **put on** as spiritual armor against our adversary is the *practical* righteousness of a life lived in obedience to God's Word. (Cf. the putting on of righteous behavior in line with the "new self" in [4:24-27](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+4%3A24-27), which having been done, will "not give the devil an opportunity."

 [c.  The sandals of the gospel (v.15)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\5.%20The%20soldier's%20armour%20(v.14-17)\c.%20The%20sandals%20of%20the%20gospel) **The gospel of peace** is the marvelous truth that in Christ we are now at peace with God and are one with Him. Therefore, when our **feet** are **shod** with **the preparation of the gospel of peace**, we stand in the confidence of God's love for us, His union with us, and His commitment to fight for us.

 [d.  The shield of faith (v.16)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\5.%20The%20soldier's%20armour%20(v.14-17)\d.%20The%20shield%20of%20faith) The **faith** to which Paul refers here is not the body of Christian beliefs (for which the term is used in [4:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eph+4%3A13)), but basic trust in God—the faith in Christ that appropriates salvation and continues to bring blessing and strength as it trusts Him for daily provision and help. The substance of Christianity is believing that God exists and that He rewards those who seek Him ([Heb. 11:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+11%3A6)); putting total trust in His Son as the crucified, buried, risen, and ascended Savior; obeying Scripture as His infallible and authoritative Word; and looking forward to the Lord's coming again. The only way to **extinguish** Satan's **flaming missiles** of temptation to doubt God is to *believe* God, **taking up the shield of faith**. " **The evil one** (or "vile, wretched one," *ponēros*) refers to the devil, whose supernaturally evil schemes we are to stand firm against and "to resist in the evil day" with the armor God supplies

 [e.  The helmet of salvation (v.17a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\5.%20The%20soldier's%20armour%20(v.14-17)\e.%20The%20helmet%20of%20salvation) The fact that the **helmet** is related to **salvation** indicates that Satan's blows are directed at the believer's security and assurance in Christ. The two dangerous edges of Satan's spiritual broadsword are discouragement and doubt. To discourage us he points to our failures, our sins, our unresolved problems, our poor health, or to whatever else seems negative in our lives in order to make us lose confidence in the love and care of our heavenly Father.

  [f.  The sword of the Spirit (v.17b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\5.%20The%20soldier's%20armour%20(v.14-17)\f.%20The%20sword%20of%20the%20Spirit) **The sword of the Spirit** is first of all a defensive weapon, capable of deflecting the blows of an opponent. It is the believer's supreme weapon of defense against the onslaughts of Satan. Unlike the shield, however, which gives broad and general protection, the sword can deflect an attack only if it is handled precisely and skillfully. **The sword of the Spirit** is also an offensive weapon, capable of inflicting blows as well as deflecting those of the enemy. Scripture is "living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

[**6  The supernatural provision: Prayer—always praying (v.18-20)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\6.%20The%20supernatural%20provision:%20Prayer--always%20praying%20(v.18-20))

  [a.  With all kinds of prayer (v.18a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\6.%20The%20supernatural%20provision:%20Prayer--always%20praying%20(v.18-20)\a.%20With%20all%20kinds%20of%20prayer) Prayer is composed of praise (such as thanksgiving) and petition. The word *"prayer"* speaks of the entire work of prayer; *"supplication"* emphasizes the petition part. Scriptural precept and allowance suggest we may pray publicly or privately; in loud cries, in soft whispers, or silently; deliberately and planned or spontaneously; while sitting, standing, kneeling, or even lying down; at home or in church; while working or while traveling; with hands folded or raised; with eyes open or closed; with head bowed or erect

  [b.  In the Spirit (v.18b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\6.%20The%20supernatural%20provision:%20Prayer--always%20praying%20(v.18-20)\b.%20In%20the%20Spirit) The most important and pervasive thought Paul gives about prayer is that it should be **in the Spirit**. This supreme qualification for prayer has nothing to do with speaking in tongues or in some other ecstatic or dramatic manner. To pray **in the Spirit** is to pray in the name of Christ, to pray consistent with His nature and will. As the "Spirit of grace and of supplication" ([Zech. 12:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Zec+12%3A10)), the Holy Spirit continually prays for us; and for us to pray rightly is to pray as He prays, to join our petitions to His and our will to His. It is to line up our minds and desires with His mind and. desires, which are consistent with the will of the Father and the Son.

  [c.  Being sleepless or watchful (v.18c)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\6.%20The%20supernatural%20provision:%20Prayer--always%20praying%20(v.18-20)\c.%20Being%20sleepless%20or%20watchful) The Greek verb behind "devote" means to be steadfast, constant, and persevering. To be devoted to prayer is to earnestly, courageously, and persistently bring everything in our lives before God..

[d.  For all saints and for ministers in particular (v.18d-20)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\A.%20The%20Armour%20of%20the%20Christian%20Soldier,%206:10-20\6.%20The%20supernatural%20provision:%20Prayer--always%20praying%20(v.18-20)\d.%20For%20all%20saints%20and%20for%20ministers%20in%20particular) He must pray unselfishly. The soldier is not in battle alone; many are engaged in the same warfare. The outcome of the battle is determined by the welfare of all involved. The Christian soldier must pray for those who fight with him. The Christian soldier must pray as much and as intensely for his fellow soldiers as for himself.

[**B.  The Examples of Faithful Christian Soldiers, 6:21-24**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\B.%20The%20Examples%20of%20Faithful%20Christian%20Soldiers,%206:21-24)

[**1  There was the soldier Tychicus (v.21-22)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\B.%20The%20Examples%20of%20Faithful%20Christian%20Soldiers,%206:21-24\1.%20There%20was%20the%20soldier%20Tychicus%20(v.21-22))**See:**[**DS1**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\B.%20The%20Examples%20of%20Faithful%20Christian%20Soldiers,%206:21-24\DEEPER%20STUDIES\Deeper%20Study%201)

  [a.  A beloved brother (v.21a)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\B.%20The%20Examples%20of%20Faithful%20Christian%20Soldiers,%206:21-24\1.%20There%20was%20the%20soldier%20Tychicus%20(v.21-22)\a.%20A%20beloved%20brother) **Tychicus**, an Asian, had been chosen to accompany Paul and the others in taking the relief offering to Jerusalem ([Acts 20:4-6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ac+20%3A4-6)), was with Paul during his first Roman imprisonment, and was frequently sent on missions by the apostle (see [2 Tim. 4:12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ti+4%3A12); [Titus 3:12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Tit+3%3A12)). He not only delivered this letter for Paul but the one to Colossae as well, in both cases being instructed to give the recipients additional information about the apostle's situation ([Col. 4:7-9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Col+4%3A7-9)).

  [b.  A faithful minister (v.21b)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\B.%20The%20Examples%20of%20Faithful%20Christian%20Soldiers,%206:21-24\1.%20There%20was%20the%20soldier%20Tychicus%20(v.21-22)\b.%20A%20faithful%20minister) He was a faithful minister: a man called and gifted by Christ to preach the gospel and to minister to the needs of God's dear people. There was no slack or slumber, no routineness or slothfulness, no complacency or neglect, no questioning or weakening; he did not fail in his ministry. He was a faithful minister—faithful in the Lord.

  [c.  A friend of believers, a messenger of encouragement (v.22)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\B.%20The%20Examples%20of%20Faithful%20Christian%20Soldiers,%206:21-24\1.%20There%20was%20the%20soldier%20Tychicus%20(v.21-22)\c.%20A%20friend%20of%20believers,%20a%20messenger%20of%20encouragement) Here Paul was giving his time and energy to helping Paul and serving in Paul's ministry. He is seen giving up a separate ministry in order to serve as a dear friend and fellow minister with Paul. Apparently he was the ideal minister and messenger of encouragement.

[**2  There was the soldier Paul (v.23-24)**](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\B.%20The%20Examples%20of%20Faithful%20Christian%20Soldiers,%206:21-24\2.%20There%20was%20the%20soldier%20Paul%20(v.23-24))

  [a.  A spiritual brother: Concerned for the peace, love, and faith of others (v.23)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\B.%20The%20Examples%20of%20Faithful%20Christian%20Soldiers,%206:21-24\2.%20There%20was%20the%20soldier%20Paul%20(v.23-24)\a.%20A%20spiritual%20brother:%20Concerned%20for%20the%20peace,%20love,%20and%20faith%20of%20others) All the hypocrites and phony believers are eliminated from this final benediction.

  [b.  A prayer warrior: Prayed that God's grace would rest upon others (v.24)](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=603&tocpath=GALATIANS-COLOSSIANS%20COMMENTARY\Ephesians\V.%20THE%20WARFARE%20OF%20THE%20CHRISTIAN%20BELIEVER,%206:10-24\B.%20The%20Examples%20of%20Faithful%20Christian%20Soldiers,%206:21-24\2.%20There%20was%20the%20soldier%20Paul%20(v.23-24)\b.%20A%20prayer%20warrior:%20Prayed%20that%20God's%20grace%20would%20rest%20upon%20others) He prayed that God’s grace would rest upon them.