

“Chosen in Christ by Grace” (Ephesians 1:1–6)

Introduction to Our Sermon Series in Paul’s Epistle to the Ephesians

Under Paul’s ministry, the church took root in Ephesus. (Acts 19:8–20)

Paul writes this church from house arrest in Rome. (Acts 21:27–29; 25:7–12; 28:16, 30–31)

Big Idea of the Sermon Text: Bless God the Father for his purpose of grace to sinners in Christ!

- I. Greetings of Blessing in the Father and in Christ (verses 1–2)
 - a. Greetings Sent from God’s Apostle (verse 1a)
 - b. Greetings Sent to Christ’s Holy and Faith-Filled People in Ephesus (verse 1b)
 - c. Blessing Described as Grace and Peace from the Father and from Christ (verse 2)

- II. Blessing upon the Father for His Blessings in Christ (verses 3–6)

- a. Comprehensive Blessing from the Triune God in the Heavenly Realms (verse 3)

Side Observation: Not “Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel”, but “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ”: Isaiah 49:1–6; Galatians 3:28–29

- b. Blessing Determined by Pretemporal Election to Blameless Holiness (verse 4a)

Titus 1:1–2; Hebrews 13:20; 2 Timothy 1:8–9

- c. Blessing Defined by Loving Predestination to Adopted Sonship (verses 4b–5a)

Applications: 1 Corinthians 1:27–31; 3:18–23; 2 Corinthians 6:14–7:1; 1 John 2:15–17

- d. Blessing Purposed as Glorious Grace in the Father’s Beloved One (verses 5b–6)

1 John 4:10

Conclusion: By Grace Alone, in Christ Alone, to the Glory of God Alone

Psalm 115:1–3