
a *Grace Notes* course

Ephesians

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Grace Notes

Lesson 13

Ephesians 4:13-16

Teaching in a Local Church

Deity of Christ

Witnessing

Grace Notes

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Ephesians

Lesson 13: Ephesians 4:13-16

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Instructions for Completing the Lessons

Begin each study session with prayer. It is the Holy Spirit who makes spiritual things discernable to Christians, so it is essential to be in fellowship with the Lord during Bible study.

Read the whole book of Ephesians often. It is a short book, and reading it many times will help you understand the story much better.

Instructions

1. Read the introduction to the study of Ephesians
 2. Study the Ephesians passage for this lesson, by reading the verses and studying the notes. Be sure to read any other Bible passages that are called out in the notes.
 3. **Review** all of the notes in the Ephesians lesson.
 4. Go to the Quiz page and follow the instructions to complete all the questions on the quiz. The quiz is "open book". You may refer to all the notes and to the Bible when you take the test. But you should not get help from another person.
 5. When you have completed the Quiz, be sure to *SAVE* your file. If your quiz file is lost, and that can happen at *Grace Notes* as well, you will want to be able to reproduce your work.
 6. To send the Quiz back to *Grace Notes*, follow the instructions on the Quiz page.
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Ephesians 4:13

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

"Till we all come", the 1st person plural aorist subjunctive of KATANTAW, "to come; to attain to"

This Greek word was used very similarly to the way that the English word "come" is used. That is, there are both literal and figurative uses for the word.

Literally, KATANTAW means "to arrive somewhere". It is used this way in the Bible in several places.

Acts 16:1, "Then came he [Paul] to Derbe and Lystra..." which speaks of Paul's arrival in a geographic location.

Acts 20:15, "And we sailed from there, and came the next day over against Chios..." referring to the apostle's arrival at Chios.

But the use of KATANTAW in Ephesians 4:13 is figurative, referring to someone's attaining to something.

Acts 26:6,7, "And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers. Unto which promise our twelve tribes, earnestly serving God day and night, hope to come [KATANTAW]. For which hope's sake, King Agrippa, I am accused by the Jews."

In Acts 26 Paul is speaking of the confidence that the Jews have they will reach, or attain to, the promises made by God to the Jewish people.

Phil. 3:10,11, "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death, If by any means I might attain unto [KATANTAW] the resurrection of the dead."

In Phil. 3 Paul shows his earnestness in desiring to "arrive at" or "attain to" a deeper knowledge and experience of his relationship with Christ by

means of a greater understanding of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross.

In our verse, Eph. 4:13, the idea is that there is the possibility that Christians can "attain to" a state of unity of the faith, by means of the Word of God which is taught by the communicators of doctrine.

Note that unity and knowledge are tied up in the same package. It is oneness of thinking that is the basis for Christian unity. And it is the Word of God which can bring any believer to thinking according to divine viewpoint. Therefore, all people who think in Bible terms will be unified.

Here is a place where the grammatical mood of a verb is important. The Greek verb KATANTAW is in the subjunctive mood. This is the mood of potential, not certainty. The subjunctive mood says "maybe we will come (to unity) and maybe we won't." The difference, of course, lies with a Christian's personal volition, the choices made when doctrine is presented.

There will be no unity if the Word of God is not taught in a local church.

If the Bible is taught carefully and well, there may still be no unity if believers in the church do not accept and apply the truth they receive. Believers who do not learn Bible truth, or who reject what they learn, will not be unified with other believers who accept truth by faith and who have application of the Word in their lives.

"in the unity of the faith"

"Unity" is the Greek noun HENOTEIS. The Greek and English words are cognates, which means that the English word "unity" comes directly from HENOTEIS.

This chapter has the only two places in the New Testament where HENOTEIS appears. Indeed, in the King James Version, the word "unity" only appears in the New Testament in English in this chapter.

In Eph. 4:3, one of the characteristics of "walking worthy of the vocation" to which we are called is that we "endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Yet a person may well wonder how Christians can be expected to maintain any sort of unity when there is so much diversity of culture, language, and opinion.

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The context of verse 13 has the answer! Unity CAN be attained to, and there is a straightforward process by which believers arrive at unity. Unity must be based on unity of thinking according to divine viewpoint. And unity of thinking leads to unity of purpose and service which results in the growth of the church outlined in verse 16.

"and of the knowledge of the Son of God"

"knowledge" is EPIGNOSIS, which may be defined as "full and applied knowledge", or knowledge which is characterized by both wisdom and prudence.

In Ephesians 1:7-10, we see that in Christ we have redemption and that in Christ God makes available wisdom and prudence, "having made known unto us the mystery of His will..."

A believer can have all of the riches of God's grace that he wants. Ignorance of God's Word and carnality prevent a Christian from having these riches.

Compare Eph. 5:15, asophos (unwise) with 2 Cor. 11:1, 17, 21 (aphrosunei), "foolish"

The wisdom of God is not merely intellectual or academic. It is not a higher philosophy which the Gnostics in the early church claimed to possess. It is the source of understanding of the details of daily living.

Phil. 1:9-11, "And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; That you may approve things that are excellent; that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God."

Note that "knowledge and judgment" are the foundations of the outworking of Christian love and fruitfulness.

Jesus Christ give men the ability to see the great ultimate truths of eternity and to solve the problems of daily living.

Col. 1:9, "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that you might be filled with the

knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding."

"unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

There is a goal - spiritual maturity. There is a pattern - the stature of the fullness of Christ.

The Bible is the only source of knowledge of how to know and love the Lord Jesus Christ. There is no such thing as "love at first sight" in spiritual things. The believer must get to know Christ very well, and this requires the daily intake of knowledge about Christ through the Word of God, which is "the mind of Christ."

I Cor. 2:16 "For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ."

Phil. 3:10 "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his suffering, being made conformable unto his death."

John 14:23 "Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loves me not keeps not my sayings; and the word which you hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me."

To be like Christ, we must know Christ!

Knowledge of the Bible leads to occupation with the Lord Jesus Christ, a daily walk with the Savior. The "looking unto Jesus" requires being in the Word.

Heb. 12:2,3 "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest you be wearied and faint in your minds."

The Bible is the only source of God's viewpoint, the only basis for Christian unity.

Isaiah 55:7-9 "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the Lord, and He will have

compassion on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Bible truth is the basis for orientation to God's plan during the believer's lifetime.

Isaiah 26:3,4 "The one who is steadfast of mind thou will keep in perfect peace, because he trusts in thee. Trust in the Lord forever, for in God the Lord, we have an everlasting rock."

Bible knowledge produces sanity and stability of mind. It is very important to get the Word of God into the mind before the times of pressure come. It is not too likely that an unstable person will respond to the Word of God. God's deals with the pressures of life using "preventive maintenance".

James 1:8 "A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways."

Bible truth is the basis for divine guidance. With all believers in a local church being guided by the same truth, there will be unity.

Romans 12:1,2 "I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

But without the Word of God, the believer's mind will be corrupted by Satan and will become a repository of world-viewpoint and false teaching.

2 Cor. 11:3 "But I am afraid, lest as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds should be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ."

This is avoided by the process outlined in verse 14.

Ephesians 4:14

That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, and cunning craftiness, by which they lie in wait to deceive:

Satan is the crafty one, lying in wait to deceive. He has a whole program of false doctrine that he uses to fool the immature person, the novice, the gullible one.

Chester McCalley has said: "If a Christian does not know what God has done in the past and does not have faith in what God will do in the future, he will be overwhelmed by today's crisis."

Satan doesn't give up when a person accepts Christ as Savior. In fact, he intensifies his activity. He has a strategy regarding believers which is very subtle and far-reaching.

Satan accuses believers before God. The sins of the Christian are observed by the fallen angels and reported. In effect, a dossier is being kept on each believer. Satan does this to try to hinder the work of God on earth. However, 1 John 2:1ff points out that Jesus Christ is our Advocate with the Father; and the Lord reminds the Father of what happened at the Cross and makes note of the believer's faith and position in Christ.

Rev. 12:9,10; Zech. 3:1,2; Job 1:6-11; 2 Cor. 2:11

Satan tries to keep the believer from the Word of God. He discourages unity among believers and he encourages Christians to ignore the Word and accept false teaching so that they will revert to their former manner of life.

1 Tim. 4:1; 1 Cor. 10:19-21; 2 Cor. 11:3, 13-15; 2 Chron. 21:1

Satan distracts by trying to keep believers from public assembly worship, Heb. 10:25. He tempts the believer with an improper emphasis on details of life such as money, success, social life, pleasure, loved ones, health, sex, materialistic things, or status symbols. The mature believer knows that his happiness is not derived from these things, so he is not a slave to them. The novice Christian, however, may try to gain happiness from such things, and this will distract him from the Word of God.

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False teaching is also a part of Satan's strategy. The following are some of the characteristics of false teachers:

- They have a false facade. Matt. 7:15; Rom. 16:18.
- They court believers. Gal. 4:17,18; 2 Tim. 3:5,7.
- They appeal to human pride. 2 Cor. 10:12
- They promote idolatry because it is a quick way to demon influence. Hab. 2:18,1
- They promote legalism. 1 Tim. 1:7,8

The false teachers will continue to operate throughout Satan's rule on earth. 1 John 4:1

Satan seeks to frustrate the will of God for the believer. There are three categories of the will of God which Satan tries to interdict.

1. The operational will of God (what God wants us to do); James 4:7,8; Gal. 5:7.
2. The mental, or intellectual, will of God (what God wants us to think): 1 Tim. 4:1.
3. The geographical will of God (where God wants us to be); 1 Thess. 2:18.

Satan encourages believers to worry. Worry neutralizes the soul of the believer. He tries to frighten Christians with regard to physical death 1 Peter 5:7-9; Heb. 2:14,15

Satan attempts to change the focus of the believer. Instead of Occupation with Christ, Satan wants the Christian to be occupied with

Self, (Col. 3:1; 1 Cor. 1:10,11; Gen. 3:4,5; Mt. 26:31-35)

Things, (Heb. 13:5,6; 1 Cor. 1:10,11),

People, (Jer. 17:5; 1 Kings 19:10; Jer. 17:4).

One of the functions of the Faith-Rest principle is to protect the Christian in the area of having a proper focus on life.

Satan also promotes heavily in the area of mental attitude sins such as fear, worry, bitterness, desires for revenge, pride, guilt feelings, lack of love, failure to forgive, hatred, mental adultery, and so forth. A believer is neutralized by sin; and mental attitude sins are behind all sin. And they are the worst category because they are so

devastating. As long as mental attitude sin is taking place, the Word of God is being ignored.

There are several religious counterfeits mentioned in the Bible.

- A counterfeit gospel. 2 Cor. 11:3,4
- Counterfeit ministers (unsaved, humanists, misled, etc.) 2 Cor. 11:13-15
- Counterfeit doctrine 2 Tim. 4:1
- Counterfeit communion table 1 Cor. 10:19-21
- Counterfeit righteousness Matt. 19:16-18
- Counterfeit manner of life ("living the beautiful life") Matt. 23
- Counterfeit power 2 Thess. 2:8-10
- Counterfeit gods 2 Thess. 2:3,4

The Bible talks about the Armor of God as enabling the believer to "stand against the wiles of the devil". This armor is protection for us while we live in kosmos diabolikos, and the weapons of our warfare are stronger than Satan as we take our stand in the Lord Jesus Christ. See Ephesians 6:10-18.

Ephesians 4:15

But, speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, who is the head, even Christ;

"Speaking the truth"

Another reference to Bible truth; however, now we see the mature Christian functioning as a knowledgeable witness to the grace of God. A believer who knows the truth can speak the truth.

Note the process to this point:

The truth was revealed by God the Father and the Holy Spirit to the inspired writers of the Bible.

The truth was recorded in writing and made available to mankind.

The truth has been taught by people who have been given spiritual gifts of communication.

Christian people have learned and applied the truth through the teaching and edification ministry of the Holy Spirit.

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Growing believers are now able to "speak the truth".

"may grow up into him in all things"

"Growing up" in Christ is edification! This result in a Christian's life is the core of the Apostle Paul's desire and prayer for the Ephesian believers.

Eph. 1:16-18, "...making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of his calling..."

Eph. 3:14-19, "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend, with all saints, what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height, and to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that you might be filled with all the fullness of God."

When I read the above prayers for the first time, I thought these would be wonderful results in my own life, but I had no idea how to proceed to reach these lofty goals. How would God reveal things to me? How would I be strengthened in the inner man? How would I ever be able to have spiritual comprehension of the love of Christ which passes knowledge?

Thank the Lord for the answer to all these questions in Ephesians 4. We are now studying the HOW-TO of the Christian life, God's grace plan for the edification, strengthening, and unifying of believers to stabilize us and make us ready for a life of ministry.

"who is the head, even Christ."

Topic: DEITY OF CHRIST

Ephesians 4:16

From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplies, according to the effective

working in the measure of every part, makes increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Here is the result we've been looking for! Here is the picture of a community of Christian believers, growing in Christ, functioning in unity, stabilized by the Word of God, and witnessing to the world. The results is that a church builds itself in the sphere of love.

"from whom" - from the Lord Jesus Christ

"the whole body" - the body is the church.

Eph. 1:22,23, "And has put all things under his feet, and given him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that fills all in all."

The Body is also mentioned in the following:

Eph. 2:16 - Jews and non-Jews are included.

Eph. 4:4 - these things are common to all believers; the family coat of arms.

Eph. 4:11,12 - how the body grows

Eph. 4:16 - how the body works together

Eph. 5:23 - the Lord Jesus Christ is the Savior of the body.

"fitly joined together" - present passive participle of SUNARMOLOGEW.

This is a compound Greek word made up of SUN + HARMOS + LOGOS (or LOGEW, the verb form).

SUN = "with; together with"

HARMOS = "a joining; a union". Hence the English word "harmony", a "union between persons; an agreement; concord", and includes the concept of musical harmony.

LOGOS = "word; vocabulary". Refers to mentality, the things that we think about, the vocabulary we use to discern and decide things. Our vocabulary provides the basic building blocks for our standards.

Therefore, "fitly joined together"

[SUNARMOLOGEW] means "a harmony of thinking; a unity of words or ideas; concord in thinking", with emphasis on accuracy because the thinking is based on God's word.

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Unity is more important than any other feature of local church life. All legitimate church activity is based on accuracy (God's Word) and a unified belief in that accurate Word.

"and compacted" - another present PASSIVE participle, "to cause to come together; to unite; to knit together; to bring to terms; to reconcile"

"by that which is supplied" - EPIXOREINIA, "supply; aid; additional help"

"every joint" - HAPHEIS, "a fastening; a ligature; a joint"

You and I are "joints". For some reason I like this word, and I notice that the New American Standard version uses it, too. What we have to this point, then, is ...

"From whom the whole body brought into harmonious thinking by the additional help of every joint..."

...so that we Christians are part of the fundamental process of church growth!

"according to the effectual working of every part" - KATA, "by means of", plus the accusative singular of ENERGIA, "active energy; operation; efficiency".

All "parts" of the body work together effectively to produce the Lord's desired result.

"makes increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

This is the body-to-body relationship in which the church increases (grows) as edification takes place. Individual believers grow in Christ as the Word is taught and absorbed. The resulting unity brings about church growth.

SUMMARY of Eph. 4:11-16

When the Lord Jesus Christ ascended into Heaven, He gave spiritual gifts to Christians. The Holy Spirit became the Comforter and Teacher of all believers. "And when the Spirit is come, He shall teach you all things."

Some of the gifts are teaching gifts: apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers.

One objective of the teaching ministry is to bring Christian saints to maturity so that they can do

useful work in the ministry of edifying the Body of Christ.

Another objective of teaching is to bring believers together in unity, so that every Christian has a working knowledge of the Word of God, can become mature, and become more like the Lord Jesus Christ every day.

The purpose is to produce Christians who are no longer as gullible and naive as children who can be pushed around by anyone with a smooth line of talk.

But the Christian is to learn the truth accompanied by the inner working of the Holy Spirit so that he can grow up into Jesus Christ in all things.

When this happens, the whole Body, the Church, is accurately framed together by the additional help supplied by every believer (joint) in the Body.

And every part of the body contributes active energy and operating efficiency to the work of causing growth in the Body. That is, the body edifies itself under the care and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Teaching in a Local Church

Introduction

Eph. 4:15,16 provides a concise description of a mature, productive local church.

- * "Speaking the truth in love,
- * we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ,
- * from whom the whole body,
- * being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies,
- * according to the proper working of each individual part,
- * causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love."

The mature local church is made up of mature believers who work together to fulfill the Plan of God and the Christian mission.

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The Local Church's Mission

The local church's mission includes the following activities:

- * Worship as a local assembly - "forsake not the assembling of yourselves together"
- * Evangelism - the winning of people to the Christian faith. "He that winneth souls is wise..."
- * Edification - "Feed the church of God ..." "Feed the flock"
- * Training - "Study to show yourselves approved unto God, a workman ..."
- * Service - Attention to the details of encouragement and support of everyone in the body of Christ.

The local church's mandate, then, is to maintain an organizational structure for the purpose of meeting God's requirements for worship, evangelism, edification, and the development of skilled workers to carry out the work associated with the stated mission.

We are to worship "in Spirit and in truth". The work of the local church must be carried out in the presence of the Holy Spirit, with His control, and through His total ministry of teaching, convicting, and controlling. The work of the local church must center in and deal exclusively with the Bible, the Word of God. The revealed Word of God, the "mind of Christ" is the only effective tool for learning what God's will is and carrying it out.

Therefore, the main daily work of the pastor and members of a local church is to provide a maximum of high quality Bible teaching, in sufficient quantity to allow believers to make rapid progress in the Christian Way of Life. The main activity of the local church, apart from prayer and worship, is Bible teaching

To meet the teaching requirements of the church's mission, the following are required:

- * A thorough description of the biblical mandate for the local church.
- * The establishment of teaching requirements to meet the mandate.
- * The designing of plans for meeting teaching requirements

- * The execution of the plans by assigning and employing people to the work, setting schedules, and putting the plans in motion

The Church's Teaching Ministry

2 Tim. 2:1,2 "You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."

Bible study has three main components:

1. BIBLE ANALYSIS - exegesis and exposition. The process of dissecting a passage of Scripture into its component parts (vocabulary, syntax, grammar) in order to learn as well as possible the meaning (interpretation) of the passage.
2. TOPICAL DEVELOPMENT - categorization. Briefly, the process of determining the meaning of words and concepts found in a passage of scripture by searching the whole Bible for clues, explanations, and illustrations of the subject under study.
2. HISTORICAL STUDY - The process of studying the social history of the people and cultures in the context of the Bible passage, and the language history of the text, to learn as much as possible about the text as used colloquially in the time in which it was written, and to learn how the text was applied to the people living in that time and place.

With these things in mind, a local church can design a comprehensive Bible teaching curriculum which will meet the needs of all age groups as they grow in Christ. Such a curriculum will contain components such as the following:

Bible Studies

- * Verse by verse expositional studies of books of the Bible
- * Studies of Bible topics regarding salvation, stability in the Christian way of life, and spiritual production
- * Survey studies: Old Testament survey, New Testament survey, life of Christ, Acts and Life/Epistles of Paul, etc.

Historical Studies

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- * Survey of Ancient History (early times to Byzantine Empire)
 - * Survey of Hebrew History (in Bible light)
 - * History of major mid-Eastern world powers - Egypt, Assyria, Sumer, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Hittites, Greece, Rome
 - * History of Judea
 - * History of the Jewish religion and practices
 - * Detailed history of the period from 100 BC to 100 AD
 - * American History (from Christian viewpoint), American and state government
 - * Law - short courses in "legal research" or "orientation to law and the courts"
- Studies in Preparation for Teaching
- * Biblical languages (Greek, Hebrew, etc.), introductory and advanced.
 - * Hermeneutics and exegesis
 - * Use of reference materials: concordances (English, Greek, Hebrew); Bible dictionaries and encyclopedias; commentaries; systematic theology studies
 - * Development of expertise in preparing Bible studies
 - * English grammar and composition
 - * Public speaking
 - * Christian literature (non-fiction)
 - * Bible lesson development and organization
 - Use of parallel passages
 - How to find and use illustrations
 - How to determine and teach appropriate applications
- Such a curriculum is very ambitious and will require several years for any individual to complete. But when this effort is compared to the requirements for obtaining a high school diploma or college degree, the eternal results to be gained certainly make the work of organization, teaching, and study worthwhile.

The Deity of Christ

Jesus Christ is eternal God. As a member of the Trinity, He is co-equal with God the Father and with God the Holy Spirit. That is, He has the same essence as God the Father. (See Topic: Essence of God) Jesus Christ has all of the divine attributes that God the Father has, including :

- Eternity -- Isa. 9:6; Micah 5:2; John 1:1,2; 8:58.
- Immutability -- Heb. 1:10-12, (cf. Mal. 3:6 and Ps. 102:25-27); Heb. 13:8
- Omnipotence -- Phil. 3:21; Rev. 1:8; I Cor. 15:25
- Omniscience -- John 2:25; 6:64; 10:15; 21:17.
- Omnipresence -- Eph. 1:23; John 14:23 (cf. Lev. 26:12); Mt. 18:20;
- Life -- JOHN 1:4; 5:26; 10:10; 14:6; HEB. 7:16.
- Truth -- JOHN 14:6; REV. 3:7
- Righteousness -- LUKE 1:35; JOHN 6:69; HEB. 7:26
- Love -- JOHN 13:1,34; I JOHN 3:16.

In addition, the prerogatives of deity are ascribed to Jesus Christ :

- He is the creator of all things, JN. 1:3,10; COL. 1:16; HEB. 1:10.
- He is the preserver of all things, HEB. 1:3; COL. 1:17.
- He pardons sins, LUKE 5:24; COL. 3:13.
- He raised the dead, and He will raise the dead, II COR. 1:9; JOHN 5:21 JOHN 5:28,29; 11:25
- He rewards the saints, II COR. 5:10
- The judgment of the world is committed to Him, JN 5:22; REV. 20:12
- Worship belonging only to God is freely rendered to Christ: JOHN 5:22; LUKE 24:52; I COR. 1:2; JOHN 14:13,14.

JOHN 5:18-23 expresses the equality of Jesus Christ with the Father.

v 18, equal in being

v 19, equal in works (what the Father does, the Son does)

v 21, equal in power (in terms of giving life)

v 22, equal in authority,

v 23, equal in honor.

Witnessing

Ephesians 6:15, "And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace."

We are to be ready at any time to minister the gospel. Note that all believers are included in this command. Every Christian is in full time Christian service, always on the front line.

Even a Christian who doesn't want to fight is in the conflict. A soldier may be untrained or in poor condition and drop beside the road before the enemy is reached. Or he may be killed in the first skirmish.

The primary thrust of evangelism is through the individual. There is a place for those with the spiritual gift of evangelism; but these men can reach only a specialized segment of the population. Individual believers circulate throughout the community in various functions. They have jobs; they belong to clubs; they have certain friends. The principle of witnessing for Christ is that you do it in your own environment.

Preparation implies the ability to fight. Preparation means flexibility and the ability to use God's Word in witnessing. Knowledge of the basic doctrines of salvation is necessary for witnessing (not salesmanship techniques). You need to know about Reconciliation, Propitiation, Redemption, Imputation, Regeneration, and The Barrier, as a starter. You don't have your shoes on your feet without this preparation.

And your feet shod ..."to bind with sandals". The sandal was the GI boondocker for the Roman army. This is a reference to the foot soldier slogging it out. The infantryman fights with the least glamor and the highest casualties.

While the Greek soldier wore greaves to protect his ankles, the Roman soldier wore a heavy soled sandal which had metal studs on the bottom for good footing on uneven or slippery ground. This shoe was known in Latin as the caligula, so the foot soldier was called caligatus. Officers wore different footgear.

with the preparation of - etoimasia, refers to full preparedness, being able to march great distances in order, with others, and over a long period of time, to use weapons effectively.

the gospel of peace...

Notes on personal witnessing

- Witnessing for Christ is the responsibility of every believer. Acts 1:8; 1 Pet. 3:15; Mk. 5:18,19.
- The effectiveness and clarity of the believer's witnessing depends, in large measure, on his understanding of the Last Judgment. Sins will not be the issue! The only reason that a person will stand at the Last Judgment is that he rejected Christ during his lifetime. John 3:18; 3:36. All sins have been judged at the Cross, and there is no double jeopardy.
- The basis for the indictment of unbelievers is human good, not sins. The witnessing Christian must make the issue clear.
- Witnessing is impossible apart from the filling of the Holy Spirit. John 16:8-11. And the Holy Spirit must minister to the unbeliever to apply the doctrine of salvation.
- The context for witnessing is that part of the Word of God called the Gospel. 1 Cor. 1:18; Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12.
- The dynamics of witnessing depends on the believer's mental attitude. One cannot be an effective witness if he is ashamed of the Gospel, if he does not have the capacity to be occupied with Christ, or if he is not oriented to Grace.
- In Rom. 1:14-16, the apostle Paul says "I am debtor", "I am ready", and "I am not ashamed". A fisherman has a desire to fish. One is not a "fisher of men" without a desire to win souls.
- There are two sources for a Christian's witness: (1) the testimony of his life, 2 Cor. 3:3, and (2) the testimony of his lips, 2 Cor. 5:14-21.
- There is a reward for witnessing. 1 Cor. 3:11-16; 2 Cor. 5:10. Rewards in heaven are an extension of edification; the only things that are rewarded in heaven is what is done on the

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basis of Grace. Thus, every reward in heaven is an eternal memorial to the grace of God. Grace means that rewards do not reflect any personal glory or merit. It is the Lord who

enables us to labor for Him and who provides the divine production in the life (gold, silver, and precious stones).

Ephesians Lesson 13 Quiz

Instructions

The following questions relate to your study of this lesson.

To answer a question, type your response in the space provided after the word "Answer:". A question may be True/False, multiple choice, fill in the blank, or short answer type.

The last question requires you to write one or two paragraphs in "essay" form. Use the space provided; it will expand to accommodate your response.

You have choices about sending the quiz back to Grace Notes.

- If you received an email file containing the quiz, you can use the REPLY feature of your e-mail application to open the quiz. Enter your answers in the reply message. Then SEND the message to Grace Notes.
- You can enter your answers on these pages, then send the whole file back to Grace Notes as a file attachment. This is handy, but these lessons will average 100K to 200K in size. As an alternative,
- After you answer the questions here, copy and paste the whole list of questions into a new MS Word document; then, send the new file to Grace Notes as an attachment. The new file will, of course, be much smaller than this main file.
- Finally, you can print the Quiz pages on your printer and send your response back to Grace Notes in the regular mail. If you do this, send the mail to:

Grace Notes

% Warren Doud

1705 Aggie Lane

Austin, Texas 78757 USA

Whichever transmission method you use, when Grace Notes receives your completed Quiz, the next lesson will be sent to you, by the same means you received this one. EXCEPT: when you have sent in the FINAL QUIZ, we will send your certificate to you, by regular mail.

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Questions on Ephesians Lesson 13

1. What is it that brings about unity among believers in a local church?

Answer:

2. In which epistle did Paul show his desire to gain a deeper experience with Christ by gaining a better understanding of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross?

Answer:

3. It is possible to have Christian unity in a church, even without much Bible knowledge, provided that everyone works together. [True/False]

Answer:

4. What are the foundations of Christian love and fruitfulness?

Answer:

5. What is the most often recurring theme in the Apostle Paul's prayers?

Answer:

6. The Bible says "we have the mind of Christ." How is this possible?

Answer:

7. To be like Christ, we must _____.

Answer:

8. There are many sources for information by which we can attain Christian unity. [True/False]

Answer:

9. "A _____ man is unstable in all his ways."

Answer:

10. Who is lying in wait to deceive gullible Christians?

Answer:

11. How does Satan distract people to keep them from receiving Bible teaching?

Answer:

12. What are the three categories of the will of God?

Answer:

13. Name three of the religious counterfeits mentioned in the Bible?

Answer:

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14. What is it that enables a Christian to stand against the wiles of the devil?

Answer:

15. What is the result, in a local church, of having many believers in the body who are effectively "working in the measure of every part?"

Answer:

16. What activities are included in a local church's mission?

Answer:

17. We are to worship "in spirit and in truth." But this worship must be conducted in the correct atmosphere in a church service. [True/False]

Answer:

18. What scripture can you cite to show that Jesus Christ is all-knowing?

Answer:

19. According to John 5:18-23, in what ways is Christ equal with the Father?

Answer:

20. Witnessing for Christ is the responsibility of every Christian. [True/False]

Answer:

End of Quiz