

EPHESIANS 1 vs 1

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¹ **Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ** / Paul was sent... of, and from, and by Jesus Christ... and Christ means: the Anointed one, the Messiah -- mentioned 45 times in this letter; the Deliverer... and though governments and some religious institutions usually don't like it known, still there is only One Deliverer... which means: One Christ! All others are: **pseudo-christs...** false christs... and antichrists. Paul was sent...



of Jesus Christ,

by the will of God, to the saints / the word is: **hagios**; the set apart ones; notice, these saints are just common, ordinary... very much alive Gentiles; not those infallibly canonized after their death supposedly in charge of: ear aches... headaches... juvenile delinquents... comedians... choir boys... menstrual cycles... married women... and 10,200 + other special interests, conditions, vocations or hobbies. Hey, whatever happened to St. Christopher and his infallible status? Apparently, his name got dropped. You know, man's traditions make void the word of God, don't they?

C. S. Lewis was asked, how God could answer a million prayers... all at the same time? And he responded by saying, God is different than us; He is eternal. He has all eternity... to answer each and every prayer. In Isaiah 8, the Lord God speaks about [those in darkness... who consult the dead for the living!](#) So, why would Paul be writing to the dead anyway? He is writing... to God's people

to the saints... who are at Ephesus / sadly, this letter is written to those who later abandoned their first love. So, let us... pay attention,

and to the faithful / wherever they are found. In other words, Paul is writing to whoever reads this letter. In Greek, the word is: **pistos**... those who are full of **pisteuo**... acting in faith. He is writing to God's people who are alive in Christ! All of them are eager to learn what Paul is learning from Jesus Christ. Certainly, even Peter enjoyed learning from Paul's letters. So, can we stop interrupting Paul? He writes...

to the saints... and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

² **Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ** / and who else matters? If grace... and peace... come from THEM... from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ... then who else really matters?

³ **eulogéto**s / that is the first word of this verse. It's an adjective... **eu** = **good** + **logetos** = **words** means: **good words**. It is where we get our word: **eulogy**. You know, when people speak good words about someone when they are dead. Thankfully, the blessed God's ways are always different than our ways. He speaks good words to those who are alive; He speaks blessed words to His people.

Paul writes...

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The **eu-logetos** God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... **eu-logeo** us with all spiritual **eu-logia** in the heavenlies in Christ:

or we can say...

The **good-words** God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... **good-words** us with all spiritual **good-words** in the heavenlies... in Christ: / and those good words, start with: grace... and peace! You can always tell when someone is sent by God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, because that one will always sound like THEM. So, using the old English, we can say:

The **blessed** God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... **blesses**... us with all spiritual **blessings** in the heavenlies... in Christ:

⁴ **according**...this English word is a beautiful word the translators chose to use. Literally, **a cordia**... meaning: **at heart**. Paul tells us 16 times in these chapters what governs the heart of this letter to the Ephesians. And what is at heart is the working out of the will and desire... of the blessed God our Father... in all generations. **a cordia**; at heart!

according as He has chosen us / the word is pronounced: eXeLeXato: He elected... He selected us. This Greek verb, this action word is in the middle voice, in this case meaning: He did it for His own benefit.

in Him / in Christ Jesus.

And when did He do this?

before the foundation of the world

Now, was that a long time ago, that He previously planned all this? like when we read [In the beginning?](#) In Genesis 1:2 we read the Spirit of God hovers over this great mess... obviously considering what to do. By Genesis 1:3... GOD said, Turn on the lights! Let US replenish the earth! Or was it more recent... in a recreation, after the great and terrible rebellion in the heavenlies? [That battle we read about in Jeremiah chapter 4.](#) Whatever the early history, as Rico Tice of All Souls London recently said, HE cares for us; we've been on His mind... a long time!

according as He chose us for Himself...

in Christ Jesus / the Messiah... **before the foundation of the world** that we become **holy** / **hagios**, wholly set apart for God's purposes; **the same word** used earlier for: **saints**.

and blameless / without blame; actually without blemish, which seems to suggest we have a few blemishes that in Christ Jesus... He has taken care of; Paul writes about being... **blameless... before Him**.

and in love:

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⁵ **having predestinated us** / and with these words, we are reminded: God, in Christ already determined the itinerary for His creation. And what is the journey's end? He said **Let US make man... in Our image. That is our destination...** already planned by God. And for all who come to Him, He intends to make it so.

having predestinated us to the adoption of children / which suggests there is still a little more growing to do for those He adopted... having previously planned. Notice, they are His adopted... children. First grade.

by Jesus Christ... to Himself,

according to the good pleasure of His will / Paul tells us, at heart is the good pleasure of God's will; at heart is His desire.

⁶ **To the praise of the glory of His grace** / He started by announcing: **charis -- grace...** and will accomplish His good pleasure... with His adopted children joyfully and thankfully shouting and bragging about our heavenly Father and His gracious doings!

→ **wherein He has made us accepted** / literally: **charitoo... charitoo...** us! This grace word is used twice. In other words:

wherein He graced us graciously...

wherein He favored us favorably...

wherein He accepted us... acceptably – we didn't accept Him, He accepts us

→ **in the Beloved** / it's His will... His grace... and His Beloved... in focus. Without Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior... there is NO good news! And, did you notice: HE accepted us! You know, some people make void the word of God... especially, when they ask: Have you accepted Jesus? It is okay to answer: I don't know; but I do know **HE accepted me!** in His Beloved Son... in whom He is well pleased.

⁷ **In whom we have redemption** / the Beloved Son paid a terrible debt we couldn't pay in a million years;

And how did He do it?

through His blood,

the forgiveness of our trespasses / for the dismissal; releasing us from our endless stepping over the lines;

according to the riches of His grace / His grace... it's a gift... it was a costly gift... a priceless gift;

⁸ **wherein lavishly abounding toward us in all wisdom and insight;**

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⁹ **making known to us the mystery of His will** / throughout this letter, we will learn more about this mystery of the Messiah... who is no longer a mystery – He is no longer a secret,

according to His good pleasure / at heart what pleases Him; this gracious redemption plan, pleases Him!

He purposed / this word is in the middle voice: He did it **for Himself; in Himself**:

¹⁰ **that in the oikonomia of the fullness of times** / literally, **oiko = house + nomia = law, rule**; in God's governing **economy**...of the fulfillment and completion thus far... of the history of His creation,

He might gather together in one / this one Greek word means: **gather up**... to sum up and reduce down to one. In His creation, God likes to keep things simple. His household rules, His master plan... will reduce to...

all in Christ -- the Messiah / no pseudo-christ... no antichrist needed,

both those in heaven, and those on earth / up there, or down here; there is no substitute for Christ!

even in Him -- the Messiah... which is what we can find God our Father doing... even today!

[Salvation is Your Name](#) | [This is My Father's World](#)

Check out: Our Brothers and Sisters Around The World Singing GOD'S Praise:  [The Songlist](#)

[I'll Dance Like David](#) | [JESUS it is YOU](#) | [I Love You Yasua](#)

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