



## **Ephesians The True Messiah**

It's widely accepted that the book of Ephesians was written by the Apostle Paul when he was in prison around 63ad. We find Paul ministering to the people of Ephesus during the end of his second missionary journey, and again during his third missionary journey for a little over two years, and you probably remember these missionary journey's if you studied the book of Acts with us over the past year when we went through Acts chapters 18, and 19.

During the time that Paul was in Ephesus if you remember correctly Paul would have been confronted with the Greek goddess Artemis who was again the same goddess that the Roman Catholic "Easter" is predicated on, and we touched on that during our study into the book of Acts. If we remember correctly there was a prominent silversmith by the name of Demetrius who made and sold idols and little statues of this goddess to the people and was doing pretty well for himself selling these things until Paul came into the picture. As the people began to hear the Gospel message that Paul was preaching many of them turned to Christianity, and because we Christians are forbidden to make any graven image of anything above or below the earth and to bow down to it... this silversmith found his business slowly disappearing as more and more people began to turn to the one true God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob and the salvation that he offered through the work that his Son had done at the cross.

Needless to say this disgruntled silversmith played a rather large part in the ensuing riot that led Paul to leave the city.. but not until he had firmly planted a rather large Christian community there in Ephesus. .

We know that Paul wrote this letter to the church at Ephesus around the same time he wrote Colossians and Philemon.. and we know that he sent all three letters by the hand of "Tychicus" who was often accompanied by Onesimus, and you can find evidence of this in Ephesians chapter 6:21, Colossians 4:7 through 9, and Philemon 1:10 and 12. It was during this time that Paul was in Rome enduring his first Roman imprisonment making Ephesians one of the four epistles commonly known as the "Prison Epistles", and of course the other three are Philipians, Colossians, and Philemon.

One of the things that I think you'll notice is that the book of Ephesians is one of the more formal letters that Paul had written, and the information covered in the book of Ephesians ranges from a wide variety of topics and so this is one of the most profoundly important books

for every Christian to read, because it has so much to do with how we actually live, and walk out our faith as Christians, and so I think you'll find this rather short six chapter epistle from Paul a rather enlightening read as we venture through some of the more perplexing spiritual understandings of our faith.

So with that being said lets venture into Ephesians chapter 1 verses 1 and 2:

*Eph 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:*

*Eph 1:2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

So here we have right off the bat.. Paul announcing himself as an Apostle of Yahshua the Messiah.. by the will of God. How profound is that introduction in view of what find in the book of Hebrews, and Colossians, and all through out the scripture really. Paul doesn't change gears here in his letter to the church at Ephesus at all does he? He still proclaims Yahshua Jesus the Messiah separate and apart from God the Father as he always does... he says he's an Apostle of the Messiah by the will of God.. and he continues in his greeting to the saints that are in Ephesus who are faithful in the Messiah Yahshua.. and notice what he says is verse 2.. he says (and I quote) “*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ*”.

Notice once again how he makes a very clear and concise distinction from the Father and the Son as he always does. And so once again I think it's profoundly important to understand that Paul never looked at his Messiah as though he was God the Father.. and he never looked at God the Father as though he was the Son. Paul knew distinctly who these very distinct, and separate persons were, and we've touched on that in our study into the book of Hebrews quite extensively if you haven't been following us on our Wednesday Night Bible studies on Wednesday evenings.

Something else that's important to remember that God is no respecter of men.. and so when Paul introduces himself here he's not boasting about who he is... but at the same time he wants to be clear that it is he.. that the Messiah sent... and that it is he that has this message of salvation that has been given to him directly from the Messiah himself. We have to remember that even in Paul's time Paul himself warned the churches that there would indeed be false prophets that were even standing among them.. that would rise up and begin to lead people astray, and who would turn them from the truth of the Gospel message that their Messiah wanted them to have. So it was profoundly important that they understand that Paul was given his marching orders if you will directly from Yahshua Jesus himself. So it was important for Paul to identify himself as that messenger who was sent directly from the Messiah, and not a messenger of a messenger, so that they would pay close attention to what he was telling them.

So lets continue in verses 3 through 10:

*Eph 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,*

*Eph 1:4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love*

*Eph 1:5 he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,*

*Eph 1:6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.*

*Eph 1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,*

*Eph 1:8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight*

*Eph 1:9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ*

*Eph 1:10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.*

In verse 3 we find a couple of very important lessons to learn just from this one sentence. Once again we as modern day Christians must understand the differences between the word “Lord”. As we've mentioned in our study into the book of Hebrews we must now also mention in our study into the book of Ephesians... the word “Lord” in our bibles is not always properly translated and just to clarify this I want us to turn back to Psalms 110 and 1:

*Psa 110:1 A Psalm of David. The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."*

I want us to notice the two words “Lord” here in this scripture. The first “Lord” is translated from the tetragramaton (also known as the name of God) “Yahovah”. And the second “Lord” is translated from the Hebrew word “Adone”. You see the Hebrew makes a very clear distinction that these are not the same. The reason that the same English word “Lord” has been used to translate these two very different Hebrew words... is because our English Bibles were translated by trinitarians... who believed in a three in one God. And so rather than translating Psalms 110:1 the way it should be translated: “*Yahovah says to my Adone: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."... they translated it "The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."* Notice the difference between the true scripture and the trinitarian translated scripture.

## **Psalms 110:1 Trinitarian Translation vs Proper Translation:**

### **Trinitarian Translation:**

*Psa 110:1 A Psalm of David. The **LORD** says to my **Lord**: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."*

### **Proper Translation:**

*Psa 110:1 A Psalm of David. **Yahovah** says to my **Adone**: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."*

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As you can see there is a profound difference in the true wording of the scripture. Yahovah is not Adone, and Adone is not Yahovah. They are distinctly different, and should be noted as such. And I might add that another problem is the fact that they have capitalized both "Lords" in that sentence. The first word "Lord" should be capitalized because it is generally understood that the word "Lord" in the Bible represents the name of God.. but the second "Lord" should not be capitalized... that capitalized "L" is misleading to say the least much like the the capital "W" in John 1:1 where they have capitalized the word "Word".. and people think that this represents Yahshua Jesus... and does not. Once again these words were capitalized by trinitarian translators because this is what they believed... not that it's true... but it's what they believed so that's how they translated it, and we must be aware of these things my friends so that we don't fall prey to these kinds of mistakes... and then find ourselves believing in these false doctrines a well.

Moving forward in verse 3 we also find a very important word... and that word is "Christ". The word "Christ" comes from the Greek word "*Christos*" and if we look at the definition of "*Chirstos*" we find that it means "*Messiah*" and once again this word "Messiah" is profoundly Jewish.. and so when we read that word "Christ" in our Bibles it's important to remember that "Christ" means "Messiah" because if we read the scripture correctly.. and if we replace the English word "Christ" with the proper word "Messiah".. it will help those who we read too.. to remember... that Jesus was indeed a Jew.

Yahshua Jesus was profoundly Jewish, and it is so monumentally important to remember this

biblical fact. Our Trinitarian friends will try to tell us that Psalms 110:1 says “Yahovah says to Yahovah”... because this is what they believe... even though that's not what the scripture says. So it's important to point these things out when we see the word “Lord” in our Bibles... what “Lord” are they talking about? The English word “Lord” is used for God.. it's used for Jesus.. and it's used for David.. so we must not be ignorant of these things my friends. All three of these persons are distinctly different. Jesus is not God the Father and God the Father is not Jesus, and David is not God the Father nor is he the Son... so it should be clear my friends... that there is no so called “Triune God” called Yahovah that consists of three co equal gods. There is only Yahovah the one true God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob... and Yahshua Jesus.. the only begotten Son of God, and the Holy Spirit who is one of many spirits of God the Father.. all you have to do is simply read Revelations 1:4, 3:1, 4:5, or 5:5 to understand that God has many spirits. To say that God is triune.. is to put God in a box and make him much much smaller than he truly is. The one true God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob is omnipresent my friends. He is indeed... everywhere. All we have to do is to pick up our Bibles and read Jeremiah 23:24, Proverbs 15:3, Colossians 1:17, Matthew 18:20, Isaiah 57:15, Psalms 139:7 through 10.. and on and on and on it goes my friends. No my friends.. God is not three in one.

Our Messiah was indeed the Messiah that was prophesied to come all through out the Torah, and the writings of the prophets in what we today know today as the “Old Testament”. He was prophesied about over and over and over again from the book of Genesis all through out the Old Testament. And it's profoundly important to remember that he came from the body of David and the tribe of Judah just as God had promised David in 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel chapter 7. So this one word “Christ”.. should always be read as “Messiah” because that's what he is, and I think that often times we modern day Christians read “Jesus Christ” and we think that “Christ” is simply the last name of Jesus... not knowing that it stands for something much more important. The English word “Christ” means... “Messiah”... and this my friends tells the true story of just who Jesus was, and is and always will be.

Isn't it explosive... that in the very beginning of Ephesians we find all of these biblical truths that just come bubbling up to the surface... knowing what the truth of scripture says collectively?

Lets take note of what's written in verse 3 of Ephesians chapter 1:

*Eph 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,*

Once again Paul making it explicitly clear to bless the God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob who is the Father of the Lord Yahshua Jesus the Messiah. You simply can not walk away from this kind of exhortation that Paul continuously gives to both the Father and the Son. And again this time we see the word “Lord” we find that it's translated from the Greek word “Kurios” which means “Master” or “Sir” or “Lord”. Thayers gives a pretty good explanation of the definition of

Kurios. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Yahshua Jesus Messiah... how profound?

Lets read again verses 4 through 10 of Ephesians 1:

*Eph 1:4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love*

*Eph 1:5 he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,*

*Eph 1:6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.*

*Eph 1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,*

*Eph 1:8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight*

*Eph 1:9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ*

*Eph 1:10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.*

And once again we see the same plan that we see in John 1:1.. that Gods great plan was to do these things from the beginning, and just as we spoke about in our study into the book of Hebrews we find these different “tenses” these different point in time if you will... all through the writings of the Apostles. Just as we're told in John 1:1 “*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God*”. This does not mean that Yahshua Jesus the man was with God in the beginning... it simply means that Gods plan pre-existed us all... Gods Word was with him and he does not change, he is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow, and all that we now know today... including his plan of salvation.. was with him from the beginning.

The problem that modern day Christianity has today.... is that we have allowed our so called “Early Church Fathers”... (that Jesus tells us not to call “Early Church Fathers” back in Matthew 23:9 by the way) tell us... that Jesus pre-existed before his time. And we've been running around like chickens with our heads cut off ever since then. And some of these denominational charters of men are now trying to explain the unexplainable, and some of them are even going so far as to say that Jesus was an angle, or he was a spirit man, or he was this or he was that... and to this day they can not explain this doctrine that they call the “Trinity”. They simply tell you that it's a mystery and you can't understand it because they gotten themselves so caught up in their own make believe world of nonsense that they can't get themselves out of it. And so their just simply left with the idea that we as human beings can't understand what the Trinity really is or how it really works... My friends... only men could come up with such nonsense.

The truth is my friend is that it took a human man... Adam... to get us into this mess, and it took a human man.. Yahshua Jesus.. to get us back out of it and it's really just that simple according to the scripture and certainly according to Paul in his apistles to the churches.

What Paul is doing in the book of Ephesians is he's taking us clear back to the beginning to help us understand the sheer power of God and his ability to foresee that we would indeed fall and then need a savior, and that it was Gods plan to provide for us a savior that would ratify what the Devil had tired to do to steel mankind away from God and to set himself up as a god before Gods people. What we must understand is that there is a difference between being “foreknown” and being “Pre-existent”. The glory of Yahshua Jesus was “foreknown” but this does not infer that he himself was “Pre-existent. In verse 4 we're told that we were chosen in him before the foundation of the world... this does not mean that we existed before the foundation of the world. We were foreknown... but not pre-existent. And these things are not hard to understand if we would simply apply ourselves to whats being said here Paul's letters. Notice what we're told in 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:20:

*1Pe 1:20 He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you*

Notice the difference between foreknown and pre-existent my friends... there is a profound difference that we must grasp if we're ever going to understand the truth of Gods Word.

Notice in verses 9 and 10 it says “*making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth*”. The mystery of his will was what was foreknown, and he put the mystery of his will according to his purpose in the Messiah as a “PLAN” for the fullness of time to unite all things in him. It's all right here if we would just take the time to read it for ourselves.

Lets read Ephesians 1:11 through 14:

*Eph 1:11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,*

*Eph 1:12 so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.*

*Eph 1:13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,*

*Eph 1:14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.*

Once again we see that we have obtained an inheritance in verse 11... but we have not acquired possession of it yet in verse 14. We are part of Gods heritage... we are his children, we are the brothers of his only begotten Son, we are a nation of Priests that will judge over angels and yet we have not acquired possession of these things yet. We were “Predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will. Predestined... and pre-existent... are two totally different things my friends. These are spiritual things that we're talking

about, and a plan put fourth by the Ancient of Days before we were ever begotten.

We are not going to be fluffing up clouds, polishing rainbows, and tending heavenly gardens in Heaven my friends. We will be ruling over nations, and judging over angels, and tending to our brothers and sisters and the children of the one true God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob. Our status... and our office is much higher than what we've been lead to believe my friends, and we should be preparing for the position that we've been given. Once again we need to read 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:1 through 6:

*1Co 6:1 When one of you has a grievance against another, does he dare go to law before the unrighteous instead of the saints?*

*1Co 6:2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases?*

*1Co 6:3 Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life!*

*1Co 6:4 So if you have such cases, why do you lay them before those who have no standing in the church?*

*1Co 6:5 I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to settle a dispute between the brothers,*

*1Co 6:6 but brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers?*

In other words Paul is chastising them for going before a judge in a community of unbelievers. Paul is trying to tell them that they need to settle there differences with in the church... and not out in a world full of unbelievers. Once again we find Paul trying to encourage us to be in training even here in this world so that we will be capable of making such judgments, and so that we will be able to judge properly. According to Ephesians 1:13 and 14 we were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory. What are we told in Romans 8:16 and 17:

*Rom 8:16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,*

*Rom 8:17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.*

And we see even more of this in Revelation 2:26 and 27... and so Paul wants us to understand that he wants us to have knowledge, and he wants us to have the eyes of our hearts enlightened.. he wants us to know and understand the riches of the inheritance that we've been freely given, and how important it is to hold fast to these things and to ask, seek, and knock each and every day so that we can be made ready to acquire possession of it to the praise of his glory.

We are the real deal... you and I, and we have a lot to do in order to make ready for the coming kingdom and to be ready to step into the office that we've been given. But if we can't stand here in our world and in our time.. we certainly not going to be able to stand there in his time. We

need to build our houses on the rock. We need to know that he is indeed one God. We need to teach these things diligently to our children and to do all that the shema teaches us to do so that we can indeed stand in the evil day. 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:11 and 12 says it best:

*2Ti 2:11 The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him;*

*2Ti 2:12 if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us;*

We my friends are much more than simply people who care for ourselves. We are ambassadors for the Messiah. God is making his appeal through us. We are supposed to be working to turn people back to the truth and to challenge them in what they believe. We are to be the light of the world. And I tell you the truth my friends.. if we do not audit our faith daily... and audit what we believe.. and audit what we trust in.. checking ourselves daily so that we know that we know that we know that what we believe is true and just.. we will not make it. Lets read 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:20 and 21:

*2Co 5:20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.*

*2Co 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

