Ephesians 1.1

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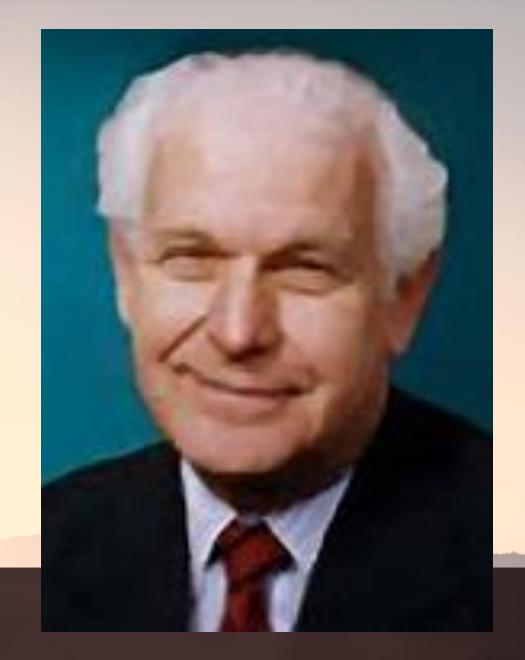
Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:

1. The Author

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(Acts 26.9-20)

"...the purpose of Ephesians is to promote a love for one another that has the love of **God and Christ** as its basis."



² He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, And set my feet upon a rock, and

established my goings. ³ And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God:

Many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord.

Psalm 40.2-3 (KJV)

2. The Authority

Ephesians 1:1

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:

"...an apostle is an official <u>delegate</u> of Jesus Christ, commissioned for the specific tasks of proclaiming authoritatively the message in oral and written form and of establishing and building up the churches."

"...to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me."

Acts 26.18

"...I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds."



3. The Architect

Ephesians 1:1

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:

"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 1.6

"From Paul who by God's decision is apostle of the Messiah Jesus..."

(Barth, M.)



It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; ⁴ that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, ⁵ not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God...

1 Thess. 4.3-5

¹⁶Be joyful always;
¹⁷pray continually;

¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances,

for this is God's will for you in Christ

Jesus.

1 Thess. 5.16-18

For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son...



God works all things together for good to those who love him, to those who are the called <u>according to his</u>





For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

2 Corinthians 5.14-15

4. The Audience

Ephesians 1:1

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:

And that is what some of you were. But you were <u>washed</u>, you were <u>sanctified</u>, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

1 Corinthians 6.11

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless *in his sight*. In love...

Ephesians 1.4

But now <u>he has reconciled you</u> by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy <u>in his sight</u>, without blemish and free from accusation—

Colossians 1.22

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

Ephesians 4.1

Some Application

Your Identity in Christ

²⁰ In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble.²¹ If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.