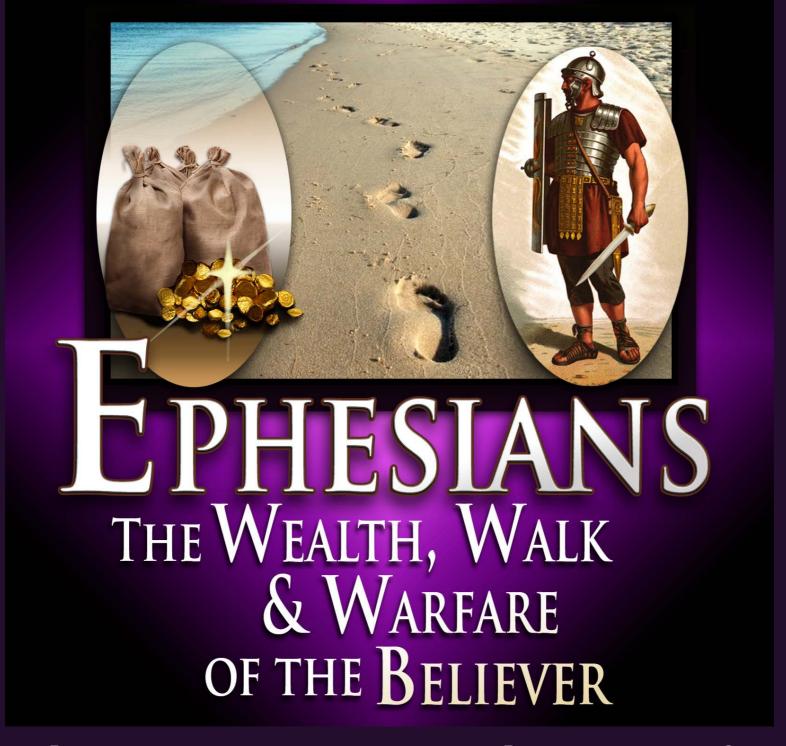
Ephesians Series
Lesson #094
February 21, 2021

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Making Known the Wisdom of God Ephesians 3:8–10

Eph. 3:6, "that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,

Eph. 3:7, "of which [the gospel, vs. 6] I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power."

THREE STAGES OF SALVATION

PHASE ONE

Justification

PHASE Two

Spiritual Life

Text

PHASE THREE

Glorification

Saved from Penalty of Sin

Saved from Power of Sin

Saved from Presence of Sin

"You were saved" "You are being saved" "You will be saved"

Eph. 3:7, "of which [the gospel, vs. 6] I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power.

Eph. 3:8, "To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

Eph. 3:9, "and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;

Eph. 3:10, "to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,"

Eph. 3:11, "according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Eph. 3:12, "in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

Eph. 3:13, "Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory."

Eph. 3:8, "To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach the good news, the unsearchable wealth of Christ, to the Gentiles [~RD]

Eph. 3:9, "and to reveal to all what is the dispensation [administration] of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;"

Eph. 3:8, "To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach the good news to the Gentiles the unsearchable wealth of Christ, [~RD]

Eph. 3:9, "and to reveal to all what is the dispensation [administration] of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;"

- 1. To evangelize the Gentiles ...
- 2. To reveal the administration of the mystery

Eph. 3:9, "and to make all see [to reveal] what is the administration [dispensation] of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;" ~NKJV

νῦν nun now, present, could be "now in this present Church Age"

າບິນ *nun* now, present, could be "now in this present Church Age"

1 Cor. 13:13, "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

πολυποίκιλος; polupoikilos

- 1. much-variegated; marked with a great variety of colors:
- 2. much varied, manifold

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Eph. 2:7, "that in the ages to come <u>He</u> might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus."

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to show forth,
demonstrate a truth;
prove, exhibit

Eph. 2:7, "that in the ages to come <u>He might</u> show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus"

- "... to the praise of the glory of His grace ..." 1:6a
- "... the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints ..." 1:18b
- "... the exceeding greatness of His power ..." 1:19a
- "... the working of His mighty power ..." 1:19b
- "... God, Who is rich in mercy ..." 2:4a
- "... because of His great love with which He loved us ..." 2:4b
- "... by [God's] grace ..." 2:5b

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ἀρχή *archē* fem plur dat principalities; ruler, realm, rule; power

έξουσία exousia fem plur dat authority, power; ruling power, root has the idea of one who has the freedom to choose, i.e., the authority

Eph. 3:10, "For the purpose that the multifaceted wisdom of God might be made known now to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms" [~RD]

Wisdom

םֹבְתְ chakham Adjective masc plur constr wise

Ex. 28:3, "So you shall speak to all who are gifted artisans, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments, to consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest."

Ex. 35:25, "All the women who were gifted artisans spun yarn with their hands, and brought what they had spun, of blue, purple, and scarlet, and fine linen."

Ex. 36:1, "And Bezalel and Aholiab, and every gifted artisan in whom the LORD has put wisdom and understanding, to know how to do all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, shall do according to all that the LORD has commanded."

Gen. 41:8, "Now it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men. And Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was no one who could interpret them for Pharaoh."

Gen. 41:33, "Now therefore, let Pharaoh select a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt."

Gen. 41:39, "Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, 'Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you.'" James 1:5, "But if anyone is deficient in wisdom, he should ask God, who gives to all generously and without reprimand, and it will be given to him."

Eph. 2:10, "For we are His workmanship [poiema—craftsmanship, work of art, artistic masterpiece], created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

Three things stand out with this usage

1. God is creating a masterpiece, Eph. 2:10, that masterpiece is the uniting together of Jew and Gentile equally in one new Body designated as the Body of Christ. But also identified in Eph. 2:11–22 as a new man, a new household, and a new Temple.

Three things stand out with this usage

- 2. Wisdom is another term used to identify Christ. This incorporates several things.
 - a. The Work of Christ: the usage in
 1 Corinthians draws our attention to
 God's wisdom of the plan of salvation.

1 Cor. 1:23, "but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,

1 Cor. 1:24, "but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God."

1 Cor. 1:30, "But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—"

1 Cor. 2:7, "But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory,"

Three things stand out with this usage

- 2. Wisdom is another term used to identify Christ. This incorporates several things.
 - a. The body of Christ the Church, never before seen in history, not anticipated.
 - b. The grace of God in this Church Age.

Eph. 3:12, "in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him."