

EXPLORING EPHESIANS - PART 1

Outline #1 PAUL AND THE EPHESIANS

Scripture Song: I Therefore Beseech You – Ephesians 4:1-3

1. The Apostle Paul's first visit to Ephesus

- a) What do you know about the city of Ephesus in the 1st century AD? Population of 250,00, capital of Province of Asia, center of Diana/Artemis worship.
- b) What did the apostle Paul do when he first arrived in Ephesus and what was the response? Acts 18:19-20
- c) What promise did the apostle Paul make before continuing his journey to Jerusalem? Acts 18:21

2. Initial reception on Paul's second visit to Ephesus

- a) Who helped to prepare the way for the Apostle Paul's second visit to Ephesus? Acts 18:24-28
- b) After returning to Ephesus, where did Paul teach the Word of God for three months? Acts 19:1-8
- c) Why did he eventually move to the School of Tyrannus, and with what result? Acts 19:9-10
- d) How did the LORD confirm the teachings of Paul as He had promised to His disciples? Mark 16:17-18,20; Acts 19:11-20
- e) Share a time when you witnessed a remarkable manifestation of divine power confirming the truth of God's Word.

3. Organized Opposition

a) Who did Satan use to stir up opposition against Paul and those who proclaimed Christ with him? Acts 19:23-34

- b) What unexpected government official did the LORD use to rescue Paul and the other Christian disciples? Acts 19:35-41
- c) What lesson can we learn from this part of Paul's story for our lives and witness for Christ today?

4. Final visit with the Ephesian elders (AD 57)

- a) At the conclusion of his 3rd missionary journey, what parting message did Paul give to the Ephesian elders? Acts 20:17-36
- b) How did the Ephesian elders respond to Paul's parting message? Acts 20:37-38

5. Letter to the Ephesians (AD 62 from prison in Rome)

- a) What impressed you the most as you examined this epistle as a whole?
- b) Who is the primary focus of this letter? Ephesians 1:3-14
- c) What important metaphors of the church are shared in this inspired letter? (Body, temple, bride, army)
- d) What can we learn about Paul's attitude toward the Christians in Ephesus from the opening and closing sentences of his letter? Ephesians 1:1-2, 6:21-24 (See also Ephesians 3:13)
- e) Why is studying this inspired letter so important?