

B. A New Humanity: The People of God in Ephesians

1. The purpose of God goes back before the foundation of the world (Eph 1:1-23)
 - a. God has given to the Gentiles every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places and chose them before the foundation of the world (Eph 1:3-4)
 - b. God has adopted the Gentiles as sons and has freely given them his grace and redemption in his Son (Eph 1:5-8)
 - c. God has made known the mystery of his will, which is the summing up all things in Jesus (Eph 1:9-10)
 - d. God has given Gentiles his inheritance and has sealed this inheritance for them with the promise of the Holy Spirit (Eph 1:11-14)
 - e. Because God has done this, he is worthy to be praised (Eph 1:3-4, 5-6, 9-10)
 - f. Paul ends with a prayer for the church, namely that they would understand this salvation found in Jesus and the supremacy of Christ in all things (Eph 1:15-23)
2. God's salvation manifested in human history is achieved by grace through faith alone (Eph 2:1-11)
3. Paul reminds the Ephesians what they were prior to God's grace and what they have become because of Jesus (Eph 2:11-22)
 - a. Gentiles were called the uncircumcision by the so-called circumcision (Eph 2:11)
 - b. Gentiles were separated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenant promises (Eph 2:12)
4. Gentiles are brought into the covenant blessings of Israel through Jesus Christ (Eph 2:13-22)
 - a. Through Jesus Christ, God has made one new man (Eph 2:13-16)
 - b. God has preached peace to Jews and Gentiles and has given them the same Spirit (Eph 2:17-18; cf., Isa 57:19)
 - c. Gentiles are fellow citizens and part of the household of God (Eph 2:19-22).
5. Paul was entrusted with this mystery (Eph 3:1-6)