

**Walk Worthy of Your Calling** (Ephesians 4:1-6: plus preview of verse 7)

Water of Life

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**Review of the Exposition:**

1:3-14: Gentile believers ought to bless the Father for the Trinity's work in preparing, procuring, and protecting Jewish believers' inheritance first (and also for doing these for Gentile believer's inheritance)

1:15-23 Thus, Paul thankfully prays that God would enable these already-enlightened believers to know: (1) the hope entailed in the Father calling them, (2) their rich corporate inheritance, and (3) how the Father works on behalf of believers with the same power by which He raised and seated Christ above all powers.

2:1-10 And God enlivened, raised, and seated Jewish and Gentile believers together with Christ, though you and we were dead in trespasses, to display His grace in coming ages; specifically the by grace kind of salvation is an unmerited gift offering no basis for boasting, for the church is God's artifact, created in Christ Jesus to do good works pre-designed for it to do.

2:11-13 Thus Gentiles should remember their former alienation, but how they are brought near.

**2:14-22 As explanation Christ reconciled Jews and Gentiles by abolishing the Law (source of enmity), to (1) create one new man (the Church) from the two and (2) reconcile both to God; so both have equal access to the Father, thus Gentiles are no longer aliens, but are built together with Jewish saints upon Christ (the cornerstone) and upon the foundational [ministry] of apostles and [NT] prophets into a holy temple [the church] indwelt by God in the Spirit.**

3:1-7, 13 **[FOR THIS REASON]** Paul [asks them not lose heart at his imprisonment] on behalf of Gentiles, because they know of the grace (spiritual gift) given to Paul: God revealed the previously unrevealed mystery to apostles & NT prophets [that any Gentiles would be fellow-heirs, of the same body, and fellow partakers.

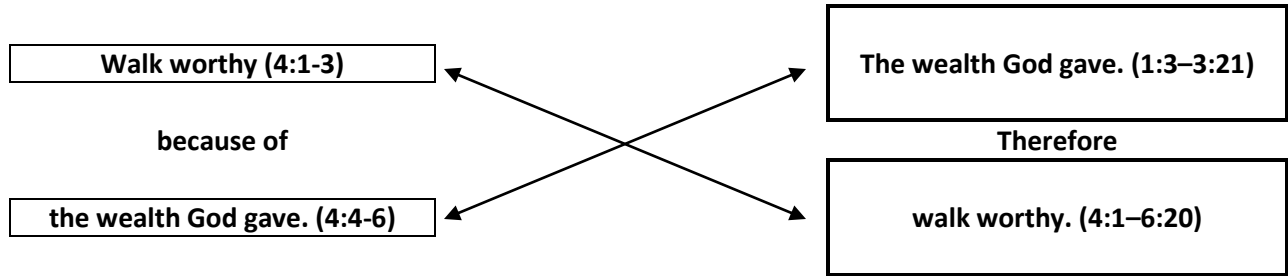
3:8-13 As explanation, God gave unworthy Paul a grace (gift) to (1) proclaim to Gentiles God's rich inheritance, and (2) to enlighten everyone concerning the mystery that the Creator had hidden from creation, so (through the revelation given to apostles and prophets) the church would be the instrument by which angelic powers would learn of the mystery (God's eternal plan accomplished by Christ who emboldens us for ministering the mystery—so Paul's imprisonment is not a cause for losing heart.

3:14-21 **FOR THIS REASON**, Paul prays to Christ's Father (who is also Father of the Church) that He would strengthen the Ephesians that Christ might indwell their assembly so they (who were established in God's love) would know the extent and depth of Christ's love with the ultimate goal that they would manifest God's character in its fullness.

3: 20-21 Believers should praise the Father forever who works exceedingly [on behalf of the body of Christ] doing for it what we never could have imagined, let alone, asked for.

**The Structure of Ephesians 4:1-6**

The *Therefore* points back to Ephesians 1:3–3:21 and the *Therefore* points ahead to 4:1–6:20.



**4:1 [In light of God joining Jews and Gentiles in one body] believers ought to live in a way appropriate to the fact that God has called them into His Church**

**4:2 [The way of living that is appropriate to the fact that God has called believers into His Church is] by humbly bearing with one another in love [viewing things from the human standpoint]**

**4:3 [Another way of viewing the idea of humbly bearing with one another in love is that believers are to preserve the unity that the Holy Spirit has effected through a jointly-bound peace [treaty, the peace-treaty that created the Church]**

Paul did not tell believers to create unity, but to preserve a unity that already exists

The unity that already exists is one that the Holy Spirit has effected

The sphere in which the unity is to be preserved is in a jointly-bound peace [treaty]

Bond = *sundesmos* (*sun + desmos*), not just *desmos*

Summary of 4:1–3 [In light of God joining Jews and Gentiles in one body] believers ought to live in a way appropriate to the fact that God has called them into His Church by humbly bearing with one another in love, that is, by preserving the unity that the Holy Spirit has effected through a jointly-bound peace [treaty, the peace-treaty that created the Church]

**4:4–6 [The reason that believers ought to live worthy of the fact that God has called them into the Church by humbly bearing with one another in love and by preserving the unity that the Holy Spirit has effected through a jointly-bound peace treaty is] because the one body corresponds to the fact that one triune God has called the church in one way.**

The Trinitarian formula

One body

One Spirit

One hope of your calling

One Lord [Jesus Christ]

One [content of faith]

One (real) baptism

This is not speaking of water baptism. This speaks of the baptism by the Holy Spirit.

One God and Father of all who is above all and through all in us all

**4:7 [In mild contrast with the unity that characterizes the Church] the Holy Spirit gave a spiritual gift to each believer in proportion to the number of gifted people Christ gave to the church**

*But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift*

**Cross-Pollination model**

(A) \_\_\_\_\_ gave (B) grace [a spiritual gift] to (C) each one of us

(X) Christ gave (Y) \_\_\_\_\_ to (Z) \_\_\_\_\_

Cross pollination answer (X) Christ gave (B) grace [a spiritual gift] to (C) each one of us

Test: Christ gave grace [a spiritual gift] to each one of us according to the measure by which Christ gave grace [a spiritual gift] to each one of us. 2

Solving the problems cross pollination creates:

Ephesians 3:1,7–8; 4:7 use grace to mean \_\_\_\_\_

Who does the NT normally say gives these? \_\_\_\_\_

What are given in 4:11? Apostle\_\_\_\_, prophet\_\_\_\_, evangelist\_\_\_\_, pastor\_\_\_\_, teacher\_\_\_\_.

Clue: Why is it that what is given is in the plural in Ephesians 4:11?

Who is the giver in Ephesians 4:11? Who is the giver in Ephesians 4:7b?