

### **Ephesians 1 – 3 Recap**

- Chosen in Christ: Believers are adopted as sons, made holy and blameless.
- Spiritual Blessings: Through Christ's salvation, we receive every spiritual blessing.
- From Death to Life: Once dead in sin, we are now alive in Christ by grace through faith.
- Sealed by the Holy Spirit: Eternally secure in Christ, seated with Him in the heavenly realms.
- Created for Good Works: Believers are recreated in Christ to fulfill God's intended tasks.
- Unified Church: Salvation forms a universal church— all believers become one family ("one new man" – Eph. 2:15).
- God's Eternal Plan: The church and salvation through Christ were always God's original plan.
- Paul's Prayers: He prays for believers to grasp God's power and love, leading to Christ being our all.
- Living as Witnesses: Knowing and living from our identity in Christ through the church empowers us to be a testimony to both the spiritual and earthly realms.

#### **Ephesians 4:1 – 6:9 – Where are we headed?**

Ephesians 4:1 – 6:19 is subdivided into five sections each governed by the imperative "walk". The imperatives are:

- Walk in unity Ephesians 4:1–16
- Walk in holiness (not as the Gentiles) Ephesians 4:17–32
- Walk in love by imitating God and abstaining from evil practices Ephesians 5:1–6
- Walk in light by not becoming involved with evildoers and their works –
  Ephesians 5:7–14
- Walk in wisdom by being controlled by the Holy Spirit in your domestic and public life – Ephesians 5:15–6:9



# "You preach your own funeral with your life. Everybody knows who is in the casket."

- Bill Perkins



# Walk Worthy - Unity in the Spirit (4:1-3)

- Unity is sacred oneness from Christ through the Holy Spirit.
- Traits of walking worthy:
  - Humility self-awareness before God
  - Gentleness controlled strength
  - Patience long-suffering like God
  - Love intentional, benevolent action

## Oneness in Christ (4:4-6)

These seven Spiritual truths of oneness that Paul presents in verses 4-6 unite all believers. They are foundational to unity.

Unity does not come from organization. It is organic because of our common foundational beliefs.

When we fail to keep the unity of the Spirit, we deny our oneness

# **Diversity of Gifts (4:7–10)**

Each believer receives a spiritual gift for ministry.

 Gifts are given for our growth but, more importantly for the growth of the body in unity and love.

Our gift is given according to the amount Christ deems.
 We are not all given the same gift.

## **Equipping for Maturity (4:11–16)**

- Leaders equip believers for the work of the ministry.
- Goal: A mature man (church) reflecting Christ's fullness.
- Maturity protects against deception and doctrinal instability.
- Speaking the (Biblical) truth in love builds up the body.
- A unified, functioning church is a testimony to the world.