

AN OVERVIEW OF
EPHESIANS.

DISCOVERING YOUR DESTINY #3



Overview of Ephesians

Section:	Topic:
Ephesians 1-3	Our wealth in Christ.
Ephesians 4-6:9	Our walk as followers of Christ.
Ephesians 6:10-22	Our warfare.

Ephesians 4:11-16 *So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to **equip** his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be **built up** until we all reach **unity in the faith** and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become **mature**, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.

*Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and **builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.***

1. What's in a Name?

Exodus 33:17 *And the Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name."*

Ephesians 4:11-16 *So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service...*

Other leaders in the NT church:

- Elder
- Bishop / Overseer
- Shepherd / Pastor

2. God's Gifted People.

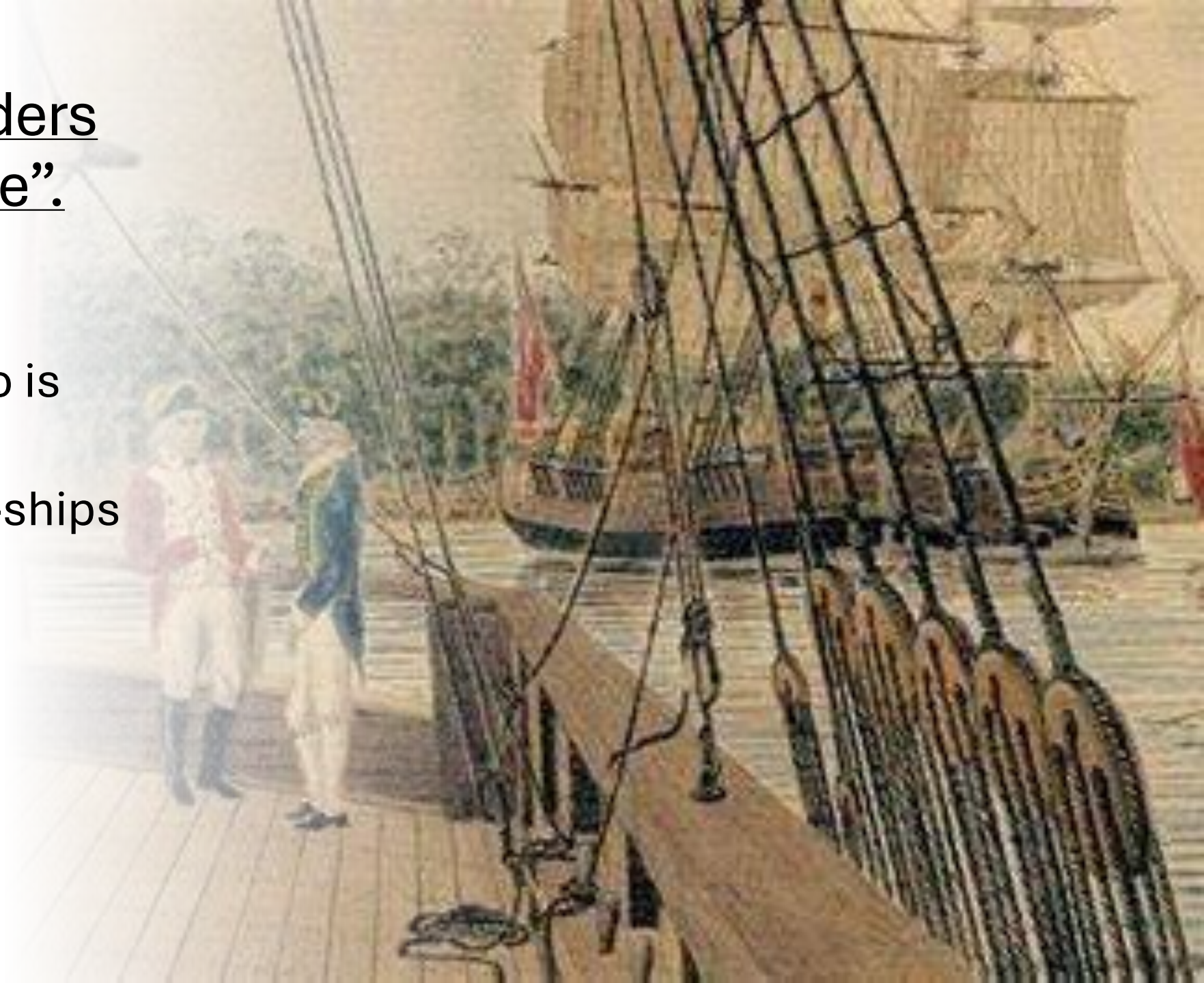
- Respond to God's call on their life
- Prepared to learn and grow in their relationship with Jesus, and to use the gifts given to them.
- Paul preached and ministered in Tarsus and Antioch for many years before he was recognised and sent out as an apostle.

3. What is an Apostle?

- Most churches recognise pastors, teachers and evangelists

(a) How did NT readers understand “apostle”.

- “apostle” = “one who is sent away”
- Ambassador / trade-ships / expeditions for colonization.



(b) What does an apostle's heart look like?

Acts 20:31 *So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.*

- It goes beyond a desire for the gospel and the church to advance.
- “apostle” refers to one sent as ambassador with important message on behalf of a government / king.
- Always part of a team.

4. Signs of an Apostle

(a) Seen the resurrected Lord in flesh or a vision:

Acts 1:21-22 *...it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection."*

Galatians 1:11-12 *I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.*

4. Signs of an Apostle

(b) Heart to Plant churches:

Romans 15:18-20...*I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God by what I have said and done— by the power of signs and wonders, through the power of the Spirit of God.*

So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ. It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation

4. Signs of an Apostle

(c) Patience, signs and wonders.

2 Corinthians 12:12 [ESV] *The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works.*

- Patience: to defiantly “stick it out”, regardless of pressure mounted against it.
- Signs
- Wonders
- Miracles

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