

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

EPHESIANS: Awake, O Sleeper - Ephesians 1:1-2 - Christ Builds His Church in Ephesus - 01.07.2024

1. Is there anything specific from this message that the Lord has impressed upon your heart?
If so, what is it & how do you feel the Lord calling you to respond?
2. Read Acts 18:24-19:41 (you can also read Acts 20:17-38 for Paul's address to the Ephesian elders):
What stands out to you about the context of ministry in Ephesus?
What are some challenges that Paul and other believers are facing in this city, and how is the Lord at work in their midst?
Do you find anything relatable in this context to things in our context today? If so, what similarities do you see?
3. This week, we covered Ephesians 1:1-2 (the greetings and salutations of this letter).
How do these verses provide information about the character of God and implications for the lives of those who trust in Christ?
How does Paul's description about himself reveal a willing submission to the Lord in his own life?
4. What is the relationship between our faith in the Lord and living lives of faithfulness unto Him (consider verse 1)?
How does the title of "Saints" (holy/set apart) being extended to ALL who believe in Jesus
Based on the greeting (in verse 2), what are two things that believers receive by faith in Jesus, & how do they impact our lives?
5. Read Revelation 2:1-7 (remember that this was written approximately 30 years after Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus):
How does the Lord encourage/admonish the church at Ephesus in this letter & what is the one statement of rebuke for them?
With these particular admonishments and this singular rebuke, what stands out to you?
How can we learn from them in what we should do & what we may want to be on guard against in our own lives/hearts?
Is the Lord the first love in your life, or have you lost the love you had for Him when you first trusted in Him?
What tangible steps can you take to grow your love for Jesus & ensure He's in His rightful place in your life?
6. Below are the "Today's Takeaways" from the sermon. Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, & if so, how?
Paul's apostleship in Christ was by God's will!
God's will matters more to Paul than his own!
We care more about God's will than our own!
As "saints" we're all set apart for Christ's sake!
Our identity in Christ determines how we live!
Faith in Jesus results in faithful living unto Him!
Jesus Christ is the only means of grace & peace!
By faith in Him we are graciously given new life!
In Him, we have peace with God & each other!