

## **PAUL'S EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS**

by Doctor Walter L. Wilson

Copyright © 1939

by

edited for 3BMB by Baptist Bible Believer in the Spirit of the Colportage Ministry of a century ago

~ out-of-print and in the public domain ~

### **SERVICE IN EPHESIANS**

In this delightful little book, we find a description of the messenger and the character of his message. Here we find the commission to go and preach and the permission to hand out the riches of Heaven to the hearers. Let us consider together these various aspects of the service of the believer.

In Chapter One, verse 18, the messenger is to be filled with the Word of GOD. He is to understand the Word in order that he may expound it wisely. He is to present the Word in such a manner that the hearers will be enlightened. He is to love the Word so that he may enter fully into his position in CHRIST and the glories of the work that has been committed to him. He is to be so skillful in using the Word that he will stir the hearts of the hearers as he presents it, until they, too, shall revel in the glory of GOD's inheritance in the saints. He is to have such a wide and deep knowledge of the Word that his message will be full. He is to so speak that those who hear will know that GOD is rich and not poor. He is to convey to the audience the precious truth that GOD's supply of grace is abundant and His joy in His people is full.

He is to know that the Word tells us what to say and the SPIRIT tells us how to say it. He is to realize that the Word only will tell us what message to give to others. while the SPIRIT will tell to whom that message is to be given. The messenger is to be SPIRIT-filled, in Ephesians 5:18. Only the SPIRIT can reveal CHRIST to another heart. He is to be SPIRIT-filled so that he will act unlike the world. He is to be SPIRIT-led so he will not waste his time running here and there and wondering what GOD wants him to do. He is to know the SPIRIT intimately and personally so that he will not be an orphan in this world, mourning and grieving over his absent LORD.

The message which this messenger is to give and with which he is to be occupied is found in Chapter 1, verse 7, and in Chapter 3, verse 8. The first Scripture tells us of the work of CHRIST for the soul; while the second one tells us of the person of CHRIST for the heart. The work of CHRIST satisfies the mind. The person of CHRIST satisfies the feelings. The work of CHRIST fits us for Glory, while the person of CHRIST fits us for earth. The story of the unsearchable riches of CHRIST JESUS is to be the object of all the ministry of all GOD's people. Let us not be so occupied with events, genealogies and doctrines that we miss either the person or the provision of the LORD JESUS.

The commission for ministry and service is found in Chapter One, verse one. It is GOD's will

that we should be His servants. It is GOD's plan and desire that we should be His ministers. The nail-pierced hands of CHRIST are laid upon the kneeling suppliant in ordination for witness bearing and message giving. We are commissioned to give the light to those that sit in darkness. We are commissioned to carry peace to those who are in trouble. We are commissioned to take life to those who are dead in their sins. We are commissioned to wear the armor both for offense and defense in the battle of life. We are commissioned to go our way singing of the SAVIOUR and showing thereby that our LORD has lifted the load, dispersed the doubts, dispelled the darkness and made us His free happy children. We are commissioned to go with the richest of Heaven for the poor of earth.

This commission is also a permission. The permission is found in Chapter 3, verse 8. Grace is given to do it. Grace is imparted to accomplish it. It is as though the believer, having been deeply stirred in his heart by the eight marvelous blessings of Chapter One, is to go witnessing, wanting to go, desiring to tell others of the marvelous riches that are in CHRIST JESUS for every hungry heart. The LORD has no law against telling the story. Tell it all you wish. Tell it wherever you please. Tell it as constantly as you can. Tell it with love. Tell it with devotion. Tell it with zeal. Tell it with earnestness. We are permitted by our loving LORD to bring all of the glories of CHRIST to every needy heart that we may contact. We do not need to be afraid of using up all our assets. Heaven's streams will never run dry. GOD's Word will always be sufficient and more than sufficient. We are permitted to take of the manifold grace of GOD abundantly.

The servant of GOD in his service is described in the Sixth Chapter beginning at verse 14. Here we find that he must know the Word, which comes by study. He must protect his heart by guarding his love. He must have a godly walk according to the SPIRIT. He must have a living, active faith to protect him. He must guard his mind from evil thoughts. He must use the Scriptures as the only weapon of the SPIRIT.

The servant of GOD should speak plainly, clearly and distinctly. His message must be interesting, informing and enlightening.

His message must be certain. It must not be given with reservation, questions, nor doubts. He must speak positively as the oracle of GOD.

The servants of GOD must avoid the love of money; the love of crowds; the love of popularity. He must be engaged in teaching and preaching the Word, not in giving book reviews and dissertations on international problems.

The servant of GOD must pray always, must love earnestly, must know the Word as fully as possible and walk closely with his LORD.

<http://www.baptistbiblebelievers.com/>

\*\*\*