

EPHESIANS

HANDOUT

THE EPHESIAN CHOICES

Keeping in mind this book was most likely written to Gentile Christians, they were faced with some options which are quite similar to the same choices we face today.

1. Try to fit in both worlds
 - a. Meant compromising in areas of integrity and morality
 - b. Bring them into conflict with the Spirit of God and all they had been taught
 - c. Deadening of their consciences
2. Withdraw from all battles & live a monastic existence
 - a. Avoid the pain and agony of taking a stand/conflict
 - b. Hinders their ability to obey the Great Commission
3. Maintain commitment to the cause of Christ at all costs
 - a. Run the risks that come with this decision (public humiliation, loss of job, persecution)
 - b. Would have to be dependent upon the lordship of Christ & unity of believers

Paul encourages #3, informing them of the necessary ingredients to live this way, but also of the difficulties which would come. However, Paul wasn't asking the Ephesians (or you & me) to do anything he himself had not done!

SALVATION

Salvation is an important theme of Ephesians, using the phrase "in Christ" about 35 times throughout the book. Ephesians teaches much about the topic of salvation!

In chapter 1:1-14 alone, we receive the following through salvation "in Christ.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| ▪ "Blessed (vs. 3) | ▪ Forgiven (vs. 7) |
| ▪ Chosen (vs. 4) | ▪ Enlightened (vs. 8-9) |
| ▪ Predestined (vs. 5) | ▪ Given an inheritance (vs. 11) |
| ▪ Adopted (vs. 5) | ▪ Sealed (vs. 13) |
| ▪ Accepted (vs. 6) | ▪ Assured of our reward (vs. 14) |
| ▪ Redeemed (vs. 7) | |

WORKS OF THE LORD FOR THE BELIEVER AS SEEN IN EPHESIANS

Charts by Dean Niforatos

The Work of the Father : <u>Election</u> (Ephesians 1:3-6)
The Work of the Son : <u>Redemption</u> (Ephesians 1:7-12)
The Work of the Spirit : <u>Protection</u> (Ephesians 1:13, 14)

Justification (Past Tense)	Sanctification (Present Tense)	Glorification (Future Tense)
Saved immediately from sin's <u>penalty</u>	Saved progressively from sin's <u>power</u>	Saved ultimately from sin's <u>presence</u>