

EPHESIANS - INTRODUCTION

The recording of the story of the epistle to the brethren in Ephesus, begins with the incident when the apostle Paul met certain disciples in Ephesus (Asia Minor) - (**Acts 19:1-7**) and asked them a very important and decisive question.

Their answer revealed that they needed to be baptised in the name of (by the authority) of Jesus. To which they submitted. Paul then laid his hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues (indicating they had received miraculous gifts from the Holy Spirit (**1 Corinthians 12:4-11**) and that they were now accepted by God as members of the church of Jesus Christ.

Paul left Ephesus, and on route to Jerusalem, stopped at Miletus and called for the elders of the church of Ephesus and informed them of certain very important things: (**Acts 20:17-38**)

- a) Paul recounts the harsh trials he experienced by the hands of the Jews. (**verse 19**)
- b) Paul related to them “everything that was profitable”. (**verse 20**)
- c) Paul taught them “publicly and from house to house” (**verse 20**)

Paul then ended off this discourse (in **Acts 20: 32**) by commending them to God and to the word of His grace, which was able to build them up and give them the inheritance among all who are sanctified.

Which then brings us to the epistle Paul wrote assuring the Ephesian brethren of all the blessing they have in Christ.

Verse 3 is the central verse of the first chapter of this 6 chapter epistle which Paul wrote to the saints at Ephesus.