

*Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 1:1-2 (NIV)*

## Questions about Ephesus

### 1. Who is Paul?

*But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel.” Acts 9:15 (NIV)*

*While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” Acts 13:2 (NIV)*

*Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God... Ephesians 1:1 (NIV)*

*From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. Acts 17:26 (NIV)*

### 2. What do we know about Ephesus?

- Large important city
  - Important \_\_\_\_\_
  - Important \_\_\_\_\_
  - Important \_\_\_\_\_
  - Important \_\_\_\_\_
- Christianity began in Ephesus began about \_\_\_\_\_

*Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God. But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. This went on for two years, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord. Acts 19:8-10 (NIV)*

### 3. What do we know about saints?

*...To the saints in Ephesus. Ephesians 1:1b (NIV)*

*For I was born a sinner—yes, from the moment my mother conceived me. Psalm 51:5 (NLT)*

*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23 (NIV)*

*To the ... faithful in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 1:1c (NIV)*

*But now God has shown us a different way to heaven—not by “being good enough” and trying to keep his laws, but by a new way (though not new, really, for the Scriptures told about it long ago). Now God says he will accept and acquit us—declare us “not guilty”—if we trust Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, by coming to Christ, no matter who we are or what we have been like. Romans 3:21 (TLB)*

## Why are you here?

- Because God wants you to be \_\_\_\_\_
- Because God wants you to be \_\_\_\_\_
- Because God may be calling you to \_\_\_\_\_
- Because God wants to offer \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to your city

*Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Ephesians 1:1 - 2 (NIV)* <sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:

<sup>2</sup>Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## Questions about Ephesus

### 1. Who is Paul?

*Acts 9:15 (NIV)* <sup>15</sup>But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel.

*Acts 13:2 (NIV)* <sup>2</sup>While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

*Ephesians 1:1(NIV)* <sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God...

*Acts 17:26 (NIV)* <sup>26</sup>From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.

### 2. What do we know about Ephesus?

- Large important city
  - Important financially
  - Important culturally
  - Important spiritually
  - Important destination point
- Christianity began in Ephesus began about AD 50

*Acts 19:8 - 10 (NIV)* <sup>8</sup>Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God. <sup>9</sup>But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. <sup>10</sup>This went on for two years, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord.

### 3. What do we know about saints?

*Ephesians 1:1b (NIV)* ... To the saints in Ephesus

*Psa 51:5(NLT)* For I was born a sinner—yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.

*Rom 3:23(NIV)* <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

*Ephesians 1:1c (NIV)* To the ... faithful in Christ Jesus

*Romans 3:21 (TLB)* <sup>21-22</sup>But now God has shown us a different way to heaven<sup>o</sup>—not by "being good enough" and trying to keep his laws, but by a new way (though not new, really, for the Scriptures told about it long ago). Now God says he will accept and acquit us—declare us "not guilty"—if we trust Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, by coming to Christ, no matter who we are or what we have been like.

## Why are you here?

- Because God wants you to be a saint
- Because God wants you to be growing in your faith
- Because God may be calling you to a special area of service
- Because God wants to offer grace and peace to your city

<sup>2</sup>Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.