

The Book of Ephesians

I. THE CHURCH IS LIKENED TO A BODY (EPHESIANS 1; 1:22-23).

- A. The creation of this body (1:1-14).
 - 1. It was wrought and planned by the Father (1:1-6).
 - a. He elected us.
 - (1) The time involved. "Before the foundation of the world" (1:1-4).
 - (2) The purpose involved. "That we should be holy and without blame before him" (1:4).
 - b. He predestinated us.
 - (1) The method. "By Jesus Christ" (1:5).
 - (2) The basis. "According to the good pleasure of his will" (1:5).
 - (3) The reason. "To the praise of the glory of his grace" (1:6).
 - 2. It was bought and purchased by the Son (1:7-12).
 - a. Redeemed by his blood (1:7).
 - b. Gathered in his name (1:10).
 - c. Predestinated for his glory (1:11-12).
 - 3. It was taught and protected by the Spirit (1:13-14).
 - a. The what of the matter (1:13).
 - b. The why of the matter (1:14).
- B. The consecration of this body (1:15-23).
 - 1. Paul prays that the church may know the God of glory (1:16-17).
 - 2. Paul prays that the church may know the glory of God.
 - a. As it is seen in his saints (1:18-19).
 - b. As it is seen in his Son (1:20-21).
 - c. As it is seen in his church (1:22-23).

II. THE CHURCH IS LIKENED TO A TEMPLE (EPHESIANS 2; 2:21).

- A. What we once were (2:1-3, 11-12).
 - 1. Dead in sin (2:1).
 - 2. Influenced by Satan (2:2).
 - 3. Controlled by lust (2:3).
 - 4. Separated from Christ (2:12).
 - 5. Excluded from the promises (2:12).
 - 6. Hopeless in the world (2:12).
- B. What God did (2:4-6).
- C. Why God did it (2:7).
- D. How God did it (2:8-9, 13).
 - 1. By the grace of God (2:8-9).
 - 2. By the blood of Christ (2:13).
- E. What we now are (2:10, 14-22).
 - 1. We are products of God's workmanship (2:10).
 - 2. We are partners with Israel in God's Son (2:11, 14-18).
 - 3. We are part of God's temple (2:19-22).

III. THE CHURCH IS LIKENED TO A MYSTERY (EPHESIANS 3; 3:4).

- A. The time element of this mystery.
 - 1. Not known in the Old Testament (3:5).
 - 2. Made known in the New Testament (3:5).
- B. The nature of this mystery (3:6).
- C. The revealer of this mystery (3:1-4, 7-9).
- D. The basis of this mystery (3:11).
- E. The reasons for this mystery (3:10).
 - 1. That God's wisdom might be experienced by the church (3:10).
 - 2. That God's wisdom might be illustrated to the angels (3:10).
- F. The results of this mystery.
 - 1. Believers have access to the throne of God (3:12).
 - 2. Believers are strengthened by the Spirit of God (3:16).
 - 3. Believers can know the love of God (3:17-19).
 - 4. Believers can request the power of God (3:20).
 - 5. Believers can display the glory of God (3:21).

IV. THE CHURCH IS LIKENED TO A NEW MAN (EPHESIANS 4).

- A. The position of the new man.
 - 1. The unity of his new position--seven great stabilizers (4:4-6).
 - a. One body (4:4).
 - b. One Spirit (4:4).
 - c. One hope (4:4).
 - d. One Lord (4:5).
 - e. One faith (4:5).
 - f. One baptism (4:4; Acts 1:5; 1 Cor. 12:13).
 - g. One God and Father (4:6).
 - 2. The unifier of his new position--one great Savior (4:7-16).
 - a. His gathering (4:8-10).
 - b. His gifts (4:7, 11).
 - c. His goal (4:12-16).
 - (1) That we be equipped (4:12).
 - (2) That we be unified (4:13).
 - (3) That we be settled (4:14-16).

- B. The disposition of the new man.
 - 1. His walk (4:1-3, 17-19).
 - a. Adopt the spiritual walk (4:1-3).
 - b. Avoid the sensual walk (4:17-19).
 - 2. His words (4:25, 29, 31).
 - 3. His works (4:22, 26-28, 30).
 - a. Put off the old man (4:22).
 - (1) Don't lose your temper (4:26).
 - (2) Don't give place to the devil (4:27).
 - (3) Don't steal (4:28).
 - (4) Don't grieve the Holy Spirit (4:30).
 - b. Put on the new man (4:23-25, 29, 32).

V. THE CHURCH IS LIKENED TO A BRIDE (EPHESIANS 5; 5:23).

- A. The bride: Her duties as the church (5:1-23).
 - 1. To be separated (5:1-13).
 - a. To the Lord (5:1-2, 8-10).
 - b. From the world (5:3-7, 11-13).
 - 2. To be circumspect (5:15-16).
 - 3. To be Spirit-filled (5:17-18).
 - 4. To be singing (5:19).
 - 5. To be singleminded (5:20).
 - 6. To be submissive (5:21-22).
- B. The Bridegroom: His devotion to the church (5:23-33).
 - 1. This devotion, as illustrated by a marriage (5:23-24, 28-33).
 - 2. This devotion, as demonstrated on the cross (5:25).
 - 3. This devotion, as consummated at the rapture (5:26-27).
 - a. A bride without spot--no worldly imperfections.
 - b. A bride without blemish--no fleshly imperfections.

VI. THE CHURCH IS LIKENED TO A SOLDIER (EPHESIANS 6; 6:11).

- A. Boot camp training (6:1-9).
 - 1. Example of children and parents (6:1-4).
 - a. As a soldier, the child is to honor and obey his parents (6:1-3).
 - b. As a commander, the parent is to discipline and instruct his children (6:4).
 - 2. Example of servants and masters (6:5-9).
 - a. The servant is to serve his master as he would serve Christ (6:5-8).
 - b. The master is to treat his servant as he would treat Christ (6:9).
- B. Front line fighting (6:10-24).
 - 1. Our enemy--the devil (6:11).
 - a. His cohorts. (6:12).
 - b. His cunning. (6:11).
 - c. His cruel tactics. (6:16).
 - 2. Our endeavors--the game plan!
 - a. We are to obey (6:10).
 - b. We are to stand (6:14).

- c. We are to pray (6:18).
- d. We are to watch (6:18).
- e. We are to persevere (6:18).
- 3. Our equipment--the armor of God (6:11).
 - a. The girdle of truth (6:14).
 - b. The breastplate of righteousness (6:14).
 - c. The sandals of the gospel (6:15).
 - d. The shield of faith (6:16).
 - e. The helmet of salvation (6:17).
 - f. The sword of the Spirit (6:17).
- 4. Our example--Paul and Tychicus (6:19-24).
 - a. Paul, the chained ambassador (6:19-20).
 - b. Tychicus, the coming ambassador (6:21-22).