

Resource: Study Notes - Book Intros (Biblica)

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Study Notes - Book Intros (Biblica)

EPH

Ephesians

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What is the book of Ephesians?

- The book of Ephesians is a letter from Paul.
- Paul was in prison when he wrote this letter. It's thought that he wrote it around the year AD 60.

Who was Ephesians written to?

- To believers in southwestern Asia Minor. Some were Jews but most were Gentiles.
- The oldest copies of this letter don't say that it was to believers in Ephesus. This means that it was a general letter to churches in several cities. The letter was read out loud in churches all around Asia Minor. This included the church at Ephesus.
- Paul hadn't met all the believers he was writing to.
- Followers of Jesus recognise that Ephesians shares the truth about Jesus. It's for all people everywhere.

Why was Ephesians written?

- To talk about God's plan for the whole world.
- To describe who Jesus Christ is and what the church is.

Main ideas

- Having peace through Christ.
- Being saved through having faith in Jesus Christ and by God's grace.
- Christ's work mattering for everything that God made.
- The church as a body, as a temple and as somewhere people belong as citizens. The church as God's family and as Christ's bride.

Outline

Greetings (1:1-2).

God's plan for the world (1:3-14).

Paul's first prayer for the believers (1:15-23).

God's plan to save people and make them one in Christ (2:1 - 3:13).

Paul's second prayer for the believers (3:14-21).

How the church can live according to God's plan (4:1 - 6:20)

Final greetings and blessings (6:21-24).