

Ephesians

A Literal-Literary Translation by Tim Mackie

Chapter 1

¹Paul, an apostle of Messiah Jesus through the will of God,
to the holy ones who [are in Ephesus] also are believing in Messiah
Jesus, ²grace to y'all and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Messiah.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Messiah, who has
blessed us with every blessing of the Spirit in the heavens through the
Messiah, ⁴because he chose us in him before the foundation of the
cosmos, so that we would be holy and blameless before him, in love
⁵having predestined us for adoption/sonship through Jesus Messiah unto
himself, in accordance with the purpose of his will ⁶resulting in praise for
the glory of his grace, which he graced us in the beloved one, ⁷in whom
we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins,
according to the richness of his grace, ⁸which he made abundant for us,
with all wisdom and understanding, ⁹having made known to us the open-
secret of his will, in accordance with his purpose having been
predestined in accordance with the plan of the one who works all things
according to the decision of his will, which he pre-planned in him, ¹⁰for
the purpose of arranging the fullness the times, to head-up all things
together in Messiah, things in the heavens and things in earth in him, ¹¹in
whom also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined in
accordance with the plan of the one who works all things according to
the decision of his will, ¹²so that we would praise his glory, we, who were
the first ones to hope in the Messiah, ¹³in whom also y'all, having heard
the word of truth, the good-news of y'all's salvation, in whom also,
having believed, y'all were sealed by the promised holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is
the first installment of our inheritance, for the redemption of the
possession, resulting in the praise of his glory.

¹⁵For this reason, as I heard of y'all's faith in the Lord Jesus
and the love which is toward all of the holy ones, ¹⁶I have not stopped
giving thanks, making remembrance on y'all's behalf in my prayers, ¹⁷in
order that the God of our Lord Jesus Messiah, the Father of glory, would
give y'all a spirit of wisdom and revelation in order to know him, ¹⁸the
eyes of y'all's heart having been illuminated so that y'all would know
what is the hope of his calling, what is the richness of the glory of his
inheritance among the holy ones, ¹⁹and what is the surpassing greatness

of his power toward y'all who trust, in accordance with the working of the power of his might,²⁰ which he worked in the Messiah having raised him from the dead ones and having seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realm²¹ above all rule and authority and power and dominion and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the coming one,²² and 'he placed all things under his feet and gave him headship over all things in the church,²³ which is his body, the fullness of the One who fill all in all.

Chapter 2

¹And y'all, being dead in y'all's transgressions and sins,² in which at one time y'all walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, the spirit who is now working in the sons of disobedience,³ among whom we also all used to live by the passions of our flesh, doing the will of the flesh and the mindsets, and we were by nature children of wrath, as also were the rest.⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us,⁵ and we, being dead in our transgressions, he made us alive together with the Messiah—by grace y'all have been saved—⁶ and he raised us up together and sat us together in the heavenlies with Messiah Jesus⁷ in order that he might demonstrate in the ages which are coming the surpassing richness of his grace, by kindness to us in Messiah Jesus.⁸ For it is by grace that y'all have been saved, through trust, and this is not from y'all'selves, it is the gift of God⁹ [it is] not from works, in order that no one can boast.¹⁰ For we are his handiwork, having been created in Messiah Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand, so that we would walk in them.

¹¹Therefore remember that at one time y'all, the gentiles in flesh, who are called "uncircumcised" by what is called "the circumcised" (what is performed by hands in the flesh),¹² that y'all were at that time, without Messiah, estranged from the citizenry of Israel, and foreigners of the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world.¹³ But now, in/through Messiah Jesus, y'all who were at one time far away have become near in/through the blood of the Messiah.¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, the one who made the two into one, and having destroyed the barrier of the wall, the enmity, in his flesh,¹⁵ having set aside the Torah of commandments in decrees, in order that he might create in himself the two into one new humanity, making peace,¹⁶ and that he might reconcile to God the two by means of one body, through the cross, having killed the enmity in himself.¹⁷ And as he came, he announced good-news of peace to y'all who are far off, and peace to those near,¹⁸ because through him we both have access to the Father by means of one Spirit.¹⁹ Therefore then, y'all are no longer foreigners and immigrants, but y'all are fellow citizens with

the holy ones and members of God's household family, ²⁰having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, the cornerstone being Messiah Jesus himself, ²¹in whom the entire building is joined together, so that it can grow into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom y'all too are being built together into a dwelling-building of God, by means of the Spirit.

Chapter 3

¹For this reason, I Paul, the prisoner of the Messiah Jesus on behalf of y'all the nations — ²if indeed y'all have heard of the arranged plan of the grace of God which was given to me for y'all, ³that it would be made known to me according to revelation the open-secret, just as I earlier wrote about in brief, ⁴into which you are, after reading, able to comprehend my insight into the open-secret of the Messiah, ⁵which in other generations was not made known to the sons of humanity as it is now revealed by the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets, ⁶that the nations are co-inheritors and co-body-members and co-possessors of the promise in Messiah Jesus through the good-news, ⁷of which I became a servant according to the gift of God's grace which was given to me in accordance with the working of his power. ⁸To me, the lowest-in-status of all the holy ones, was given this grace, to announce good-news to the nations of the incomprehensible richness of the Messiah, ⁹and to illuminate for everyone what is the arranged-plan of the open-secret which was hidden from the ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰in order that now would be made known, to the rulers and to the authorities in the heavenlies, through the church, the multi-faceted wisdom of God, ¹¹in accordance with the plan of the ages which he accomplished in Messiah Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through his faithfulness [or: faith in him]. ¹³Therefore, I request that there be no discouragement about my difficulties on your behalf, which are your glory.

¹⁴For this reason, I bow my knee to the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family-clan in the heavenlies and on the earth is named, ¹⁶so that he would give to y'all, according to the richness of his glory, power to be strengthened through his Spirit in your inner human, ¹⁷that the Messiah would dwell in your hearts through faith, having been rooted and established in love ¹⁸so that y'all would be empowered to comprehend along with all of the holy ones what is the width and length and height and depth—¹⁹to know the far-beyond knowing love of the Messiah so that y'all would be filled up unto all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to the one who is powerful beyond all things to do over abundantly more than what we would ask or conceive, according to the

power which is at work in us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Messiah Jesus for all generations of the age of the ages, amen.

Chapter 4

¹Therefore I urge y'all, I the prisoner in the Lord, to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which y'all have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³being zealous to keep the one-ness of the Spirit with the bond of peace: ⁴one body and one Spirit, just as y'all were called by one hope of y'all's calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of everyone, who is over all and through all and in all. ⁷But to each one of us was given grace/gift according to the measure of the gift of the Messiah. ⁸Therefore it says:

*"Having ascended to the height,
he took captive the captive forces;
he gave gifts to people."*

⁹Now, what is "he ascended," except that he also descended to the lower regions of the land? ¹⁰The one who descended, he is also the one who ascended high above all things in the heavenly realms, in order that he might fulfill all things. ¹¹And he gave some on the one hand as apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some as shepherds and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the holy ones for the work of the ministry, for the building of the body of the Messiah, ¹³until we all attain unto the unity of the faith and unto the knowing of the Son of God, unto a mature man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Messiah, ¹⁴so that we might no longer be babies, tossed by waves and driven by every wind of teaching done by the trickery of humans, in the craftiness of a scheme of deception, ¹⁵but doing-truth in love, let us grow up in everything into him, who is the head, Messiah, ¹⁶from whom all the body, being joined together and being united together through every supporting joint, according to the working by the measure of each one of the parts, produces the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

¹⁷Therefore I say and I testify by the Lord, and being united together through every supporting joint, that you should walk no longer as the nations walk in the futility of their mindset, ¹⁸having been in the dark in their mindset, estranged from the life of God because of the ignorance which is in them, on account of the hardness of their heart, ¹⁹who, after making themselves calloused, they gave themselves over to a lack of self-control resulting in deeds of every kind of impurity along with insatiable desire. ²⁰But in such a way you did not learn the Messiah, ²¹if indeed you have heard of him and were taught in him, as truth is in

Jesus,²² that y'all are to take off the old humanity of y'all's former way of life, which is being corrupted by its deceptive desires,²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your mind,²⁴ and to put on the new humanity which has been created in accordance with God, in justice and true piety.

²⁵Therefore, having put off the lie, "speak truth each one with his neighbor," because we are members of one another. ²⁶"Be angry and do not sin." Do not let the sun set on your anger,²⁷ and don't give an opportunity to the slanderer. ²⁸The one who steals, let him no longer steal, but rather let him labor, producing good with his own hands, so that he can have something to share with the one who has need. ²⁹Any rotten word, don't let it come out of y'all's mouth, but only what is good for building up what is needed, so that it might give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹All bitterness and anger and wrath and blasphemy, let it be taken from you, along with all wickedness. ³²But be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another, just as God in the Messiah forgave you.

Chapter 5

¹Therefore, become imitators of God as beloved children, ²and walk in love, just as the Messiah loved us and gave himself as an offering and a sacrifice to God as a pleasant aroma.

³But sexual immorality and all impurity or greedy desire, should not be named among y'all, as is fitting for holy ones, ⁴also obscenity or foolish talk or inappropriate humor; such things have no place, but rather grateful thanksgiving. ⁵For y'all should surely know this: that no sexually immoral or impure or greedy person (who is an idolator) has an inheritance in the kingdom of the Messiah and of God.

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, because on account of such things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

⁷Therefore, do not participate with them. ⁸For you were at one time darkness, but now (you are) light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹for the fruit of the light is in all goodness and justice and truth ¹⁰discerning what it is that pleases the Lord, ¹¹and don't share together in the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹²For what is done in hiding by them is shameful even to mention, ¹³but everything that is exposed by the light is made visible, ¹⁴for everything that is made visible is light. Therefore one says:

*Awake, Sleeper!
Rise from among the dead ones!
And the Messiah will shine on you!*

¹⁵Therefore, watch carefully how y'all walk, not as unwise, but as wise,¹⁶ redeeming the time, for the days are evil. ¹⁷Because of this, don't be foolish, but discern what is the will of the Lord. ¹⁸And don't be drunk with wine, which is recklessness; but be filled by the Spirit, ¹⁹speaking to each other in psalms, hymns, and spiritual poems, creating poems and singing in y'all's hearts to the Lord, ²⁰giving thanks always to God the Father for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Messiah, ²¹submitting to one another in reverence of the Messiah,

²²wives to their own husbands as to the Lord ²³because the husband is the head of the wife as the Messiah is head of the church he the deliverer of the body. ²⁴But as the church submits to the Messiah, so also wife [submit] to their husbands in every way.

²⁵Husbands, be loving your wives, as the Messiah loves the church and gave himself on her behalf, ²⁶so that he could set her apart having purified by washing of water with a word, ²⁷so he could present the church to himself glorious, having no stain or wrinkle or any such thing but that she would be set apart and blameless. ²⁸In this way, the husbands are obligated to love their own wives as their own bodies; the one who loves his own wife, loves himself. ²⁹For no one ever hated his own flesh, but he raises and nurses it, just as Messiah does for the church, ³⁰because we are members of his body. ³¹"For this reason, a man will leave the father and mother and he will be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." ³²This open-secret is great, but I am speaking about the Messiah and the church. ³³Nevertheless, each one of y'all should love his own wife in this way, and the wife should revere her husband.

Chapter 6

¹Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ²"Honor your father and mother" which is the first commandment with a promise ³"so that it may go well for you and you will be in the land a long time."

⁴And fathers, do not provoke your children, but raise them in the training and instruction of the Lord.

⁵Slaves, obey your masters according to the flesh, with serious reverence, in sincerity of your heart, as to the Messiah, ⁶not as a human-pleaser doing "eye-service" but as slaves of Messiah, doing the will of God from your very being, ⁷with goodwill, serving as to the Lord not humans, ⁸knowing that each person, whatever good he might do, that one will receive from the Lord, whether a slave or a freeman.

⁹And masters, do the same things to them, giving up threats, knowing that their Lord and your own is in the heavenlies, and there is no favoritism with him. ¹⁰Finally, find strength in the Lord and in the power of his might. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that y'all have power to stand against the schemes of the slanderer, ¹²because our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic-powers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies. ¹³Because of this, take up the armor of God, so that y'all have power to stand in resistance on the day of evil, and having fulfilled one's duty, to stand. ¹⁴Stand, therefore, having girded y'all's loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of justice, ¹⁵and having tied y'all's feet with the good news of peace, ¹⁶in all situations having taken up the shield of faith, by which y'all have power to extinguish the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the Spirit's sword, which is the word of God.

¹⁸With every prayer and petition, praying on every occasion in the Spirit, and for this reason staying alert with all endurance and petition for all of the holy ones, ¹⁹and for me, so that a word would be given to me when I open my mouth, to make known with boldness the open-secret of the good news, ²⁰on behalf of which I am an ambassador in chains, so that by it I might be bold as I am obligated to speak.

²¹So that y'all also might know how things are with me, what I'm doing, Tychicus will make everything known to y'all, that beloved brother and faithful servant in the Lord, ²²whom I sent to y'all for this reason, so that y'all might know how things are with us and that he might comfort y'all's hearts.

²³Peace to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith, from God the father and from Lord Jesus the Messiah.

²⁴Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Messiah with incorruptible [love].