

SIT: CHPTS 1:-3 OUR POSITION IN CHRIST INCLUDES:

- A Chronological Conundrum
- A Change
- Acceptance through Grace
- A Call to a Purpose

- A Chronological Conundrum: 1:3-10.
 - To be "In Christ" means to be in Him that is outside time and space.
 - This is the key to understanding election: When we believe, we receive all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.
 - Yet we are still trapped in time and space here and now.
 - Main Point: God predestined the church (Gentiles included) to manifest God to all. This is the mystery in 1:9 and is seen throughout the book.

- A Change: Ye were (2:1-3), but God (2:4)...now are ye (2:5-6)...
 - Dead in trespasses and sins now quickened
 - Walked according to world, lusts of the flesh, now in Christ created unto good works.

- Acceptance through grace
 - Our position is determined by what Jesus did, not by what we do. 1:5-7, 2:5-10, 13, 19-20
 - Note reference to church again 2:21-22

- A Call to a Purpose:
 - The call is not to salvation, but rather to good works in order to manifest God through Christ to all by how we live our lives as the members of the church. 1:4, 9, 10, 18; 2:4-10
 - An inheritance comes with the call. 1:11, 6:8
 - Chapt 3 expounds upon Chpt 1:9.
 - Chapt 3 ends with reference to the church.

WALK: CHPTS 4-6:9

- Walk in light of the truth just presented: God planned from the beginning that the church (Jew and Gentiles) would manifest who God is to all.
- We are the church—we need to reflect God to the world (physical and spiritual). See 4:1-15:
 - Humbly
 - In Love
 - Unified
 - Mature

WALK: CHPTS 4-6:9

- The church leadership is given as a gift from God to bring the body into a state of maturity and unity so that it will reflect Christ.
 - Very little is given regarding church structure, rather spiritual reality is explained.
 - Individual members, as parts of the body, must learn to put off the old and walk in the new. 4:17-5:21. See pattern.
 - Word of God is what manifest to us how to do this. 5:13

WALK: CHPTS 4-6:9

- Our lives should be lived out deliberately showing the world who
 God is. For example: 5:22-33.
 - Husbands and wives....
 - The great mystery.....I speak concerning Christ and the church!?!
 - Servants—you do the will of God when you obey...and you are rewarded according to the inheritance established before the beginning of the world. Revisit 1:18.

STAND: 6:10-24

- The Devil will resist us in order to stop us (the church) from manifesting God to the world.
 - Pride
 - Selfishness
 - Division
 - Immaturity

STAND: 6:10-24

- Be strong in the Lord and the power of His might: 6:10 refers us back to 1:19-23.
 - The church has dominion! Christ is the head, body is....the body 1:23.
 - Put on armor of God....
 - We wrestle with the enemy—we do this by doing what is described in the book of Ephesians, not in addition to it.

STAND: 6:10-24

- "Standing":
 - Maintaining our stance in the face of attack/resistance.
 - Understand the goal of the attack—to stop us from manifesting God to the world(s).
 - "Armor" and prayer

PAUL'S PRAYERS

- Chpt 3:14-21
 - "For this cause" for the cause