

MASTER'S VOICE

NO. 10

EPHESIANS

LEGEND: MAJESTIC
SWEETNESS

ALBION BIBLE CLASSICS

A SURE SALVATION

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INTRODUCTION

Written from Rome 61-63. He had worked in Ephesus 54-57 225,000 souls-first Christian city-churches spread 100 miles around this centre. Always remember Paul thought in Aramaic though he may have written in Greek.

With a dozen and more mentions of “grace” (TIBOTHA the keyword of the letter) the apostle highlights the favour of God in sending down not a statue like that of Diana but His only Son so that He might be glorified with Hallelujahs.

The theme of the letter must be “the power of God and His word” and the letter is written with Acts 19.20 and Acts 20 firmly in mind. It contrasts the eternal truth preserved in the word of the prophets and apostles with the fabulous religion and riches of Diana whose temple was a wonder of the world and it’s treasury the central bank of Asia Minor.

Grace is to be understood in the context of the favour of God sending His own Son (by contrast with the favour of Jupiter). In His Son power and might and energy is concentrated as the letter explains. In Him are all the riches of God. God’s favour, riches and power is vested neither in fallen angels nor cult goddesses like Diana but in Christ Jesus who became man and died for us expressing divine favour and affording salvation with a wealth of joy and peace and character and gift to bear on our lives.

*We pinpoint stirring elements of the gospel that emerge in this letter-God’s favour in **bailing us out** of sin and sponsoring every act of faith, His favour in walking with us, and His high favour in captaining our struggle from first to last.*

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CHAPTER BY CHAPTER-TOPICAL

1. THE SWEETEST NAME ON EARTH
2. THE 2000 YEAR TRUCE OF GRACE
3. CHRIST THE SPINDLE OF HISTORY
4. THE SHEPHERD MIND
5. CHRIST THE ALUMNUS OF ENLIGHTENMENT
6. THE POWER PANOPLY AND PLEDGE OF GOD

(1) THE SWEETEST NAME ON EARTH-THE BRIDEGROOM OF OUR HEARTS

“Messiah” (MESHYAHA) takes all the prominence and deserves all the glory in the letter Paul writes to Ephesus. Jesus is not alone sovereign king of kings but He is “everything” to Paul-He is everything to you and me.

(1) He is *commissioner* who forgave all to Paul and to us and sent us out with a message. He gave us purpose

(2) He is the “householder” who owns and accepts us each one as His own beloved

(3) He *accomplished* our settled and overflowing peace by means of grace by His atoning death

(4) He is the entire *source* of our “happiness” –what Christians call” blessings” are largely mundane-but He brings in heavenly blessings which we already enjoy.

(5) He is the ever present creator with the Father who *planned* all this for us before founding the world. It was an act of the highest love.

(6) He is the world’s greatest teacher *teaching* us through prophecy a backcloth to the administration of the church and making Christians the light of the world today.

(7) He ordained us to the honour of His glory and *sealed* us with the Holy Spirit

(8) He is the *inspirer* of a faith that “prays” for the saints and makes us thankful and thrilled with the “faces” of Christians who show in every smile their belief in our glorious one.

(9) He *opened our eyes* to a vast surprise of our eternal hope and a huge heavenly wealth

(10) He *assured* us of it all by the glorious resurrection and the accompanying ascension so that He is ascended above all principality and power.

What a Messiah-what a Christ is ours!

1 “Just as” (AICHNA) vv4-5 *The Father was exactly as pleased to choose us in our day as to assign His own Son to our salvation* before the creation of the world.

2 “Forgiveness” SHUBUKNA and “redemption” PURUKNA v.6 are only subscribed by the wealth of Christ’s favour-by what is called the “generous or overflowing hand” of the beloved in the graphic Aramaic.

3 MADABARNOTHA v.10 “The word based organization of the last times”-terminology that derives properly from “the word of authority” and may also have a cognate in MADARUNA ‘the spindle’ so things will spin around Jesus or “roller that prepared the uneven ground” for He will level every hill and raise every valley and smooth the way to righteous living. This mysterious development of the Kingdom of God Christ taught and the apostles explained is the verity we are witnessing as striking signs of its soon appearance increase in these last days.

4 ROSH HADATH v10 “Renewed **from the top or the head**” *The whole world will be renewed from heaven when Christ comes.* There will be a “youthfulness” about nature-as if it was just created. It is like a school being reopened pristine

with new staff. It is to be like the N.T.-a fresh dispensation..The word is used of the “new sword” of Ishi Benob made to slay David cf 1Samuel21. 16.

5 The word “grace” vv.5&8 TIBUTHA and “favourable” or “propitious” TIBUTHNIA derive from the root “to stand” or “have standing” “to be established” and “to be presented”. There is even about it the idea of “preparation” and of “expedition and hurrying. It also means “adoption” so that BARA TIBUTHA is an adopted son. Spurgeon once said “Have you known grace?” To know grace is to “haste to Christ” “to be adopted” “to have standing with God” “to be prepared to meet the Lord”. Above all it is a singular “benefit” or “favour”.

6 v.12 The privilege of “first hoping” in Messiah was that of Paul and the apostles and the Ephesians too. This may also entail being the first to “wait for the Son from heaven” and the first to “preach the good news” cf. SBARTHA v.13 which is cognate to “bright” so the gospel is one of “bright words”. The Hebrew “hope” SIBAR includes “confiding” as a strong constituent.

7 v.13 Not the “seal” of the cross which “finishes everything” in ritual but the *seal of the Holy Spirit is the signature of perfection*. “They that have my Spirit these saith He are mine”. Such seal has to be affixed to a book or document. The Spirit must be present in our lives as such. The Father planned it all - the Son accomplished redemption on a grand scale and the Holy Spirit applied it to our lives.

8 v.14 The “pledge” RAHABONA (Greek ἀρραβών) is a down payment or deposit and promise of betrothal to Christ when He comes. Paul was inspired to pray for the Ephesians because evidently the deposit was in their lives. We pray for people in anticipation of “gathering to the bridal feast”. We are invited with them and thus we promote readiness in one

another as we grow in grace. *“Love for the saints” is hugely facilitated and heightened through the mutual invite to this forthcoming marriage.*

9 vv.14-23 The three cardinal points Paul makes by the gifting of the Spirit are “**The hope of our calling**” “**The Wealth of His glory** in the inheritance of saints” and “**The Excellence of His power** in resurrection and ascension as head of the church” added to the “**Sealing of the Spirit**”. These latter three cardinal points Paul is develops together with the “sealing of the Spirit” –together they are the *four winds or breathings of the Spirit in the life of the church.*

(2) THE CALVARY TRUCE THAT HAS STOOD FOR 2000 YEARS OF GRACE

1 vv.1-2 *The “Power” that re-constituted the body of Christ and fills our own bodies* and souls that were dead and foolish or void of capability understanding and recognition. Paul goes on to recognize that the “spirit” of the “ruler of the air” is assiduous diligent and hugely active HAPHAT in the sons of the age.

2 v.3 The apostle goes on to name the men of the world or the sons of this age as employed or serving the will and desires of the flesh and mind RA- *doctrinaire-routine intelligent notions* and the objects of desire.

3 v.4 *This way of life is one of “enmity” RAGAZ characterized by a proneness to anger and provocation.* It is best seen in the desert lifestyle of the Jews under Moses-they constantly provoked the Lord. So modern man is living not typically always in a rage but rather regularly displeasing the creator by his ways. It is a life of provocation to the righteous Lord. It is the direct opposite of reconciliation. Man will not agree to or be reconciled to the principia of the gospel or the scriptures.

4 vv.5-6 Grace it is indeed that in such circumstances took us from the miry clay. *Grace it is that “gave life”. Grace it is that raised us QUM (cf in the “essence” and “identity” QNUMA of new being.* Grace it is that seated us with Christ. It is as if like Israel of old we were given a new land and position under God. Such seating belongs to kings judges and select family members and such are we under Christ’s grand rule.

5 v.7 Together with *Grace “sweetness” BASIMOTHAH has come upon us and is to be the Sustained Gala of all eternity.* It was the perfume that drew us to Christ and the fragrance that now infects our entire life is from Him. In Romans 2.4 this “perfume” is called the “goodness” of God-really the glorious unique fragrance of the life of Jesus.

6 vv.8-10 The historic reference reads “We have been” or “were” saved “removed” “separated” “redeemed” looks back to a past action of God but necessarily including “faith”. BE-HIMANOTHA. It is all the “offer” or “concession” YIHAB/MOHABOTHA through the “giving up of oneself” or “yielding” on God’s part of Christ to die for us. It did not come from any amount of “serving” God. So *one cannot “shine” like the glory of the sun in the morning BAHAR for the work of redemption and the concession and yielding are all God’s.* Paul argues this on the basis of “creation”- Christ created us - the ultimate agent of our physical and spiritual life is Christ. First he made us to be saved and then he yielded His life to save us. He even prepared good works of service that we should walk and be taught in them as one walking in a passage or corridor.

7 vv.11-13 Recall, recount, remember and relate to yourselves that (1)You were called in uncircumcision-(2) You were without Messiah or king and (3)Aliens separated from the guidance or management of affairs of Israel and (4)Strangers or pilgrims travelling differently to the covenants

of promise and (5)without hope or good news and(6)Without ELOAH in the era or your life. But now (7) You are come near QARIBAH by the blood of Messiah. This nearness is one of worship and intimacy and respects God in Christ.

8 v.14 He destroyed the fence or hedge SIGA that was in the middle or going between like the opposite of a mediator though termed such - MESATHA. And He destroyed the law of authority or judgment and review and in His QNUMA or “fundamental reality”. [The word for his underlying divine *being-cum-consciousness* was *Qnuma(underlying identity of the sovereign God of [covenant] love)*. More of that in a minute. Jesus explained this *underlying identity* with the Father so clearly that it is impossible to miss it in the Gospel. The cleversticks in Theology have a piece of jargon called the “hypostatic union”[*A term if taken beyond QNUMA could be attempting impossible jugglery of trying to unify two souls three persons, two natures and one body as one God*]. A better presentation of the “oneness” of God for the the man in the street and in ordinary English is simply to say that “God’s soul” albeit stripped or emptied and made subject to process is *QNUMA-HYPOSTASIS*-the fundamental reality spoken of 15 times in the NT in John 5 and Hebrew 10 and elsewhere].

9 v.15-18 He made peace. Paul is using a pun in his statement in Aramaic-he speaks of a “fence” SIGA being destroyed and then of “peace” SHINA(not SHALOM) being “constructed or repaired”. *This is also the word for “tranquillity” and “truce”*. It is not SHALOM “completeness”so it is not *saving peace* but borrowing space and offering truce for the work of and response to the gospel.

10 v.19-20 We as Gentiles are not strangers or YATHAB “settlers who sojourn” but “sons”.In his first words Paul calls the Christians “holy ones” QADISHA –inhabitants of the “New Jerusalem” –the holy city of God.

11 vv.21-22 Paul tells the Ephesians they are “combined” like a “rider and horse” or constructed “like a ship” or

“building”. There is and appropriateness in the union with Christ and His rule. There is deep skill in the Lord’s work in the church as it began among the Gentiles. One observes this in the book of Acts. It is like “boatbuilding” and the broad timber of the hull or basic corner of the temple represents Christ in His glory. We are built as a settlement or colony AMARA of God through the Spirit who indwells the believers.

(3) GOD’S ADMINISTRATION AND ACCESS TO HIM IS IN CHRIST-THE SPINDLE OF HISTORY.

1 v.1 Because of this (the gospel) - Paul is referring back to the previous METUL in verse 18. Christ who created “peace” and reconciled is the “corner” and the apostles are the second foundation layer SHATHASTHA or groundwork and base that He laid - the prophets being the first. Paul’s reference is therefore to the gospel and specifically for the church’s sake and for this reason he is imprisoned in Rome. His house arrest was valuable to the church then and now - receiving Roman leaders - and writing letters of perannual value to Christianity.

2 v.2 The Ephesians had heard of the “administration of grace” which is otherwise described as “mystery”. *In 1.10 the “administration” throughout Christian history is aimed at the “end-times”*. Paul came to understand it by “revelation” or “uncovering” just as John the divine did. Paul urged they could understand his private and personal grasp of it . The “fuller” revelation not previously grasped by generations gone by is now understood by apostles and prophets of the church - Paul is specific - not by all - but by those who value the mission of Christ and follow the development of prophecy.

The *administration or “spindle” of history involves the gentiles becoming SHOTHEP partners, colleagues and associates in effecting the plan for the body* by evangelism and teaching. We are also SHOTHEP in the “promise” MULOCONA or declaration of “possession” which is now extended far beyond Abraham to believers as to their inheritance in Christ. Paul is a major “minister” of the church like the “sun” toward the earth – an under pastor teacher of Christ whose authority derived from the Lord’s power.

3 v.2-4 To Paul as the least of holy ones was grace given to preach or promise this heritage - *this wealth which has not been traced footstep by footstep to its origin - it is a mine unreachable by human effort*. It cannot be “found in its entirety”- or “disputed” for its reality. It has never been since creation nor will it ever be fully known.

4 v.5-8 *Paul was sent to enlighten every person. This is the true “enlightenment”*-the “dawning” of gospel truth-of Christ’s kingdom teaching-of the growth of Christ’s rule. This NOHAR(v.9) of explanation by the word and enlightening the corners of creation was previously hidden in old time in God Himself.

5 vv.9-11 Paul further explained that whilst every nation would share the light the true experience of God’s grace was to be channeled through the church in its fullness and diversity to “principalities and Rulers” in the heavens. This latter statement means that the “full extent” or “commitment” MAL (cf the drawing of a bow) and the diversity or “division” PURASHNA that *the gospel represents displays the wisdom of God - His “general-ship”* His sovereign plan. So the highest order of angels stand to learn and the “sultans” or “temporal powers” on earth equally stand impressed.

The wonder of it is that God alone could carry out a plan prepared in eternity on earth over millennia.

¶ v.12-13 There is through Christ boldness or “oral confidence” PARHASIA and access QAREB “drawing near - as close as to touch the one sacrificed” with confidence in His faithfulness. So we should not be “reluctant” “lazy” “slothful” “bored” or “inactive” in prayer - even when Christian leaders cannot be rescued from affliction. As Paul showed even “persecution” of the church fills up the suffering of Christ and shows the commitment that angels and authorities marvel at.

¶ v.14-15 Then Paul adds “I myself bow my knees “close to” LOTH the Father. CAPHAN suggests a *curving of the knee* perhaps a bowing to the earth-though I think not. The Father is the model and source of all “fatherhood” ABHOTH in heaven and earth. From this font of “Fatherhood” comes all “reverence” which attached to bishops and priests and parents.

¶ v.16 Paul’s first prayer in the letter is that the Ephesians would be confirmed by a gift. The gift is the power of the Spirit *in your inner son of man* (cf Watchman Nee’s *emphasis on the inner self or spirit*). The matter of “confirmation” or ratifying and proving and making genuine and being steadfast and convinced and so in full spiritual health.

¶ vv.17-19 The indwelling Christ will be “rooted”(literally “twisted powerfully round” as root or serpent coils) and “instituted”(established) in the heart when “love rules”(literally *kindling and raging love like fire*)-then the 4 dimensions will be “discovered” (literally “overtaken” or “arrived at” in the Christian journey. The analogy of the Emmaus travelers fits well.

Together with the dimensions there is the “experience” of the love that simply fills the heart and life with the Lord.

1. The *lifting* elevating power of love-its capacity to “set aside” sin and divisions. ROMA
 2. The *penetrating* and exploration power of love AMAQ
 3. The *persevering* or “giving time” ARAK of love
 4. The spread amplitude - *abounding* of that love PATHIA
- 10** v.20 The “power” of Christ is the “business agent” - SAOR the “overseer” caringly visiting us as would a doctor. The whole depends on the “*virtue*” of Christ - His resources - His miraculous and wondrous power. This neatly summarises in the woman with the issue of blood-His virtue met her need.

(4) THE SHEPHERD MIND RESTORES MAN TO THE GOLD STANDARD OF GOD

1 v.1 The Christian walk is to be precisely suited YAYA (encompassing “loveliness of look” and “of fragrance” and especially “of behaviour”) to our calling. As in Eph2.7 the “fragrance” of Christ which comes upon us and was marked in His life is to be precisely what sets us apart.

2 vv.2-4 *The Christian is at once a “believer” and “patient endurer”* – MISIBARIN - the truth is that we cannot say a believer will not endure for to believe is to endure - *the one is precisely the other in Aramaic*. Ours is to be the humility of the “well cover” or the “floating raft”- preserving health and supporting others but otherwise not remarkable. Ours is to be the “quietness” of gentle pleading and serene living(cf 1 Thess4.11 SHILIN “Study to be quiet”) and clemency in relationships-ours is to be the steady sawing of the carpenter as he breathes hard whilst he completes a task of shaping the wood. We are to “take pains” and great care to watch like a shepherd *watches* sheep or as one would keep one’s lips NATAR so that we may *preserve the unity of the faith*. “Unity” AYIOTHA is “*rhyming*” or “reconciling and uniting” so as

to belong together. This “harmony”(v.3) or concern as Aphraates (3rd c Syrian Christian leader) said is “keeping the chariot wheels tight”-*making sure the wheels do not come off Christianity!* This is only possible by the *girding* HAZAQ of the Holy Spirit - so that we can unite as a mighty army and walk agreeably on the journey of life.

❸ vv5-8 There is one *Lord* MARYAH one *faith* HIMANOTHA one *baptism* AMODYAHA - *one God and father* ELOHA ABBA(a manner of maintaining the three spirits in one **soul-identity or divine Qnuma** used by Paul & early Christians) of all and over all and in the ordination and service of all and in the house of all but to each is given grace according to the stretch or measure SHAHAH of the gift. The term ASIOTHA is used for “Marriage fortune” in Genesi 24 and 25 and by Ephrem the Syrian for “the gift of healing”.

It would appear Paul is speaking of one faith and varied giftings. So Christ who took captive the sinner also brought according to prophecy a multiplicity of gifts to His church.(Psalm 68.18)

❹ v.9 He went to the *lower regions* of earth.

TAHATHITHA is used by Ephrem of Hades several times. *Christ clearly went among the once dead categorically not to suffer but to declare His kingdom* and victory both confirming to those held there whether in righteousness or by its lack their destiny and immediately affording the righteous rest from the captivity so opening paradise. He is also ascended beyond all heavens. With the purpose of fulfilling everything whether in restoration as in the millennium or in replacing in the restitution (cf Exodus 22.6 and James in his speech at the first Council. The fact that the present entire universe lies at his feet suggests that Christ is altogether set

to renew the heavens after their passing away. So great is the mission.

5 v.10-12 But He that ascended –what is that-but if that one also descended earlier to the lower inferior undignified places of the earth-he who ascended is actually the same that also *ascended higher than all heavens to repair or replace SHALAM all things*. And He gave *power access and authority* of YAHAB to those who *hold the office* AITH of apostles, the office of prophets, the office of evangelists, the office of pastors, the office of teachers for the completion of the holy ones-for the service of the ministry –for the building of the body or corporate assembly of Messiah.

6 v.13 Until we all are the one thing in faith and personal experience of *the Son of God and one complete man with the dimensions or the gnomon or “rule” of manhood* or full trajectory(as of an arrow) of the *perfection SHOMUL* of πληρωμα of Christ. Christ is the exact indicator of maturity like the gnomon on a sundial or the builders rule which is indicative of straightness.

7 vv.14-15 Nor are we children shaken MEZAAZAAOTH –*“tossed like a ship”* or *“transformed and changed”* SHATHAN by every *“wind of teaching”* of deceitful or *perfidious* men NACIL –those who in their *sophistication or cunning* HARA plot TZANA *serpent like* to sow *dissention* NOTHAA –but we were *real and true* SHARIRA in our love that all our matters or concerns may grow and prosper in Messiah who is the head. Ireland and Scotland were shaken Oct.’17 by Ophelia-a 75MPH storm-the authorities prepared for the worst. Preparation offsets storm. *The reality is LOVE will survive spiritual storm*. Frankie Sinatra *“I did it my way”* crumpled often because he would not easily forgive – his was a stormy life. Love forgives

8 v.16 But from Him(Christ) the whole corporate structure(body) has been constructed/formed RACAB and *joined /knotted/bridged* QATAR by every *tendon/ligament/artery/joint* SHARIN exactly proportioned to the gift given every member for the growth of His(Christ's) body that in love His body may be completed. The apostle in 1 Cor14.3 speaks of prophecy as a gift given for edification and encouragement. In Romans 14.19 edification has to do with not judging manners by erecting stumbling blocks. As to the "completion" Ezekiel's temple was BENINAH "completed" with its encircling wall of 9.5 feet high by 9.5 feet wide-so God's temple will one day be complete. It grows by love HUBOH/HAB –affection.

9 v17 *Importance of Intellect/mind* I speak on this matter and witness in Jehovah that from now you should not walk as other Gentiles or nations that walk in the emptiness of their *mind* and they are dark in their *intellects* and aliens from the life of God because there is no personal experience of God in them and because of the blindness of their own hearts. The Aramaic RAIA "to think" "*tend as a shepherd*" so to "*contemplate kindly*" or mindfully and RAIANA "*conduct*" "*will*" so "*mind*" AOIRA is such "blindness" as errs and sees so little and cares even less.

10 *The shepherd mind* vv.19-22 Lacking experience of the Lord such blind ones "saw off" PASAQ their hope or "gospel" and surrender their souls to PAHEA *licentious voluptuousness* and to work hard at every idolatrous abomination or heresy in *covetous cupidity* YUAENOTH Here is Paul's first "but" concerning the Ephesians. He has two "but's" about himself. First(1) he is firm in his love, second (2)he testifies they should not live as Gentiles now. As to them (1) This is not the way they learned what belongs to Christ the King-for *exactly* what is QOSHETHA –*true*.

Ephrem the Syrian combined SHARIRA and QOSHETHA – *“reality and accuracy”*. So the Ephesians learned truth **exactly** as it was in Jesus. The second “but”(2) of theirs was the call to put away NOH – “stop” or *“unload as unwanted or sold cargo”* the old or former “son of man” corrupted by the old “covetousness”. Paul knew all about the “old man”. He saw this coveting as unconquerable till Jesus became Lord. Thus one is made new in the Spirit of “thinking” or “the mind of Christ-the shepherd mind”.

10 vv.23-27 So “to be made new” in the spirit of the mind or put on the new Son of man created in righteousness purity and truth. Dr.Narsi of Mosul in 1902 in his second volume made a memorable statement that **“the creator of all created man as good gold**. Man naturally is now gold plus much dross.The word BARAN in Aramaic also means “to separate”. So Paul is saying that man can be separated from his sin and given a nature which is as Paul and Narsi urged was “pure” but Paul emphasizes is now righteous and true. The first appendix or footnote to renewal is *“speaking the truth”* QOSHETHA/QSHETH is “accuracy” and the term derives from “bowshot” - speak truth with neighbours for we are “limbs” or part of each other. The second appendix is that we *not let the sun go down on our wrath*. “Be angry” is not a command or encouragement but a statement with a proviso - that RAGAZ anger, that is **indignation** - not sudden white hot anger but rather provocation be not immediate & have sufficient good reason.This reference links with Psalm 85.5 which tells us God will not prolong His anger for ever. **“Sunset” ARABA is a word which also can mean “pledge” or “negotiate” in Aramaic**. Thus the lightsome day is a period to give pledge of regret and reassure or to negotiate out of a time of resentment and provocation. As to sinning the idea is that our indignation should not wander

away from its genuine base and become sheer barefaced ruthless anger or violence. The Sun is a minister that keeps its duties and so should we as ministers of Christ. We are not to “give place” to the “swallower slanderer” –the devil.

11 v.28-32 *We are not to grieve AOQ the Holy Spirit*-to cause Him “disgust” –“to annoy Him”, “to make Him lose heart”. He has sealed us against the day of “taking home” or “redemption”. Ours is to be like “sweetness”BASIMIN affection RAHAM and “forgiveness” or “letting go” SHEBAQ as that of Jesus so theft, hate words, bitterness, hot fuming , provocation and wickedness must go.

(5) CHRIST –THE ALUMNUS OF THE WORLD FOUNDER OF THE TRUE ENLIGHTENMENT

1 v.1 *Be then Imitators of God* Bruns & Kirsch 1789 spoke of “apes being taught to imitate men”. Paul is thinking of “children imitating a parent” for he says “”exactly as children do”. Walk also exactly as the King who loved us and handed over Himself for our faces-these shamed faces! The offering that brings near QEREBAH and the sacrifice DABATHA. Ephrem the Syrian with understanding quoted Hosea 6.6 with Matt.9.13 which intimates not *our* “sacrifice” but *His* “atonement”. ‘I desire mercy not sacrifice, acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings’.

2 vv.3-4 Paul continues his theme of “**PUTTING OFF**. This time it is 1.“fornication” and TANAPHOTHA 2.”Impurity” (“rape” and other abominations) and 3. “Greed” –so that there is not even a reference may be made to them among Christians-for they simply would not exist as is “beautiful” DAA or to be wished. Nor 4. Abusive language nor 5. Worthless words of disgrace nor 6. “Nonsense” SHAIJA with the sense of “madness”. *What is sought is “Thanksgiving”*.

3 v.5-9 *Walking in the light* Paul now uses the Hophal Causative- urging “You have been given to know that no fornicating, impure, greedy person who serves idols has an existing right to the inheritance of the Kingdom of Christ and God. We are to note that the Messianic kingdom first comes and then the heavenly kingdom of God. Neither is open to the idolater who fails to imitate God and walk as Christ walked. To be deceived with empty words on these things puts oneself under the anger or sustained wrath of God who is thus provoked-where obedience is wanting. MATHTIPISNOTHA is “willing obedience” or assured confidence from consent that is fully persuaded. The apostle stresses Ephesians were from “the ancient darkness” but now Ephesus has believers-NOHARA “light” in Christ so walk precisely as “sons of light”. The fruits of light are “goodness” or grace” TIBUTHA and ZEDIQOTHA and truth QUSHETHNA. George Warda in 1895 associated truth with training but also “choice” so philosophical scientific or logical categories might prevail. **Christ has set *the* standard of justice and rectitude.** The Greek parallels Galatians 5 where the fruit is that of the Spirit. Here all fruit is from the Light. However vv.8-9 spell out the theme of fruit emerging from the Light that causes it to grow. The Aramaic of Galatians 5 is a singular fruit of “Love” with its co-ordinates. *Ephesians 5 deals with “illumination” and “commentary” and “Jesus’ teaching” as the light or alumnus of the world.* This illumination results in a very different lifestyle. There is distinction to be made between light and dark - and of what is pleasing before the Lord. Here **the Aramaic again betters the Greek for it speaks of rebuking the “servants of the dark” not the “works” which are not subject to rebuke.** ABADA can read “works” but means rather “servants”. It is the servants that are

unfruitful. Paul is thinking of the Greek evening feasts –his criticism is “they are not wedding feasts”

MESHOTHAPA-where Christ is the groom. They are mere orgies of the guilds in honour of pagan gods. That was old Ephesus. They serve a thing that is secret or polluted. Everything is corrected and created by light and it is light that opens everything to view. It is said “Awake rise from among the dead and Christ will illumine you.” (Isa.60.2) Bengel speaks of *ἐπιφαια* –adopting the primitive word of the LXX of Isaiah in this place-because “*the sun “begins” to shine when one rises to work* (Note that the work that comes of this spiritual sun only begins at conversion). Our walk is to be honourable –we are no “fools” but precisely practical and wise. *Ephrem* has a quotation “Noah desired to walk in white dignity”.

4 v.16 Paul continues to speak to the “workers of Ephesus” with the Guild background in mind. He says the exact mark of wisdom is to “*redeem the time*” **QIRSA**

- 1.This is first “time
- 2.Then “mischances”
- 3.Then “difficulties” or “distresses”
- 4.Then “quarrels”-so make something of all these.

Christians are to live intelligently-understanding the will of the Lord. Don’t be drunk with wine but filled with the Spirit Speaking to your souls with mizmors THASHBAHATHA-“glory songs” like Solomon wrote about Christ-and piped or accompanied music as to the harp-harmonious music sung with the Holy Spirit-in your hearts to the Lord. Give thanks every time **for every person** you see in the name of our Lord Jesus the King to God the Father. The Aramaic is explicit of “faces” or “personalities” not just “things” as the Greek.

5 v.21 **SUBJECTION**-*first in household relationships*. Be subject one to another in the love of the Messiah or King. *The Nestorian Church spoke of “subjection” as a “grace received from God”*.

Wives in respect of husbands (and this is expounded fully to demonstrate the grace principle and the *modus operandi* of the bridal relationship at the heart of Christian work & action). Next in Chapter 6 subjection respects children and slaves or household servants who are not manumitted. Why is such grace respectable and agreeable?

1. Because Love puts “service” at the heart of relationships
2. Because the husband like Christ is *the starting point and end in view in a relationship-hence its completion* (a vital associate concept of “headship”)-RISH head

3 Because the husband is MEHINA Saviour –origin “to make one’s own” so “the intimate”, “reviver” or “resurrector”.

Paul now develops the concept in respect of men calling on men to love their wives as Christ loved the church giving everything for His “bride”. Christ looked for a church without blemish wrinkle or defect TOLSHA (αμιαντων 2 Maccabees 14.36) QAMATA - STAIN OF FILTHY VAPOR OF INTEMPERANCE-Syrian Martyr chronicle-also opposite of Stamp of Holy Spirit-mark of antichrist or “stain from speech” James 3.6 comment Ephrem) MOM (Song 4.7

“Altogether beautiful –there is no flaw in you”). So husbands “care for” their wives YATZAPH (Taking pains as provider-as good housekeeper-or as doctor or library curator) He further extrudes the concept speaking of a man leaving SEBAQ his parents to cleave NEQAPH to his wife. This leaving heaven is a great mystery (such as we are initiated into by Christ-Ephrem usefully cites an allegory mentioned by Jeremiah-so Christ and His bride is an allegory/mystery) ARAZA. Each

man should so *feel deeply* about his wife-RAHAM and each woman be reverent DAHALA.

(6) THE POWER , PANOPLY AND PLEDGE OF GOD

1 v.1 *The disadvantaged* Children and slaves are not forgotten in the letter. Obedience is commended because it is approved and right and second because it is the first command with promise-namely “honour your father and mother and your days will be long in the land of your birth. Parents are asked not to provoke children but rear and educate them in the discipline MARUDOTHA and teaching or doctrine or study YULPANA of our Lord. Servants are exhorted to obey masters with

1. Reverence like that that fears an earthquake or shock
DAHALTHA

2. With trembling RAHITHA

3. With PASHIHHA –simply with no guarantee or warranty
As to Messiah as King.

Service is to be done as if done to God Himself - from all your soul and serve exactly as our Lord did and not as men do. Paul advises that whether free or slave the Christian man will be rewarded by Christ. Masters are called on to forgive because “the” master in heaven who does not see as slave or free or master or servant forgives and is utterly impartial.

2 vv.10-12 *Spiritual armour* Paul argues that the brothers were strengthened in the `HOQPAH ample strength of His power HAYILAH and put on “all” the armour ZINAH or weapons of God to withstand all the strategems /strategies TZANATHAH of the “swallower slanderer” (Aramaic for “the devil”). You do not vie with flesh and blood but ARKOS an order of demons or “fallen” angels(cf Jesus in John12.31 14.30) and with SHALITNAH sultans or rulers and with

prefects or tyrants AHIDI of this dark age and wicked spirits that are below or at “the limit of” or “the boundary of heaven”. The Greek “in heavenly places gives the wrong impression—they desire to be marginal to divine influence and fight with us.

3 v.13 On this account put on all the armour of God to resist or encounter ARA and *when you are ready* ATHAD in all circumstances you will and must stand. Readiness has to do with being powerful enough in God’s armour.

4 vv. 14-17 Stand:

1. With your waist girded with truth QOSHATHAH truth or “verily’s”

2. And put on the breastplate of declared righteousness or imputed worth.

3. And shoe your feet with the readiness TOIBAH or prepared words or “pre-arrangement” of the good news (Greek word used) of Shalom (Hebrew word used). *There had to be accurate verbal acquaintance and possession of folios to sustain testimony where possible during the earliest gospel history* just as today preachers should avail them of the best source materials.

4. And with these take the shield of faith assurance HIMANOTHA –you will have the power to extinguish or obliterate DAK all the burning arrows GAROHI of the evil one.

5. And put on the metal helmet SANORTHA of salvation and hold in your grasp *the sword* SIPHA *of the Spirit which is the pledge of God’s word* MALTHA

5 vv.18-19 And in all bending to pray (o lay a trap or ambush) TZAL and in all intercessions BA pray in the Spirit and in Him and in inclining or laying a trap be watchful every moment while laying a trap believing with confident

“Amen” and entreating (the gatekeeper) for all the saints and for me that the word be given me in **opening** my mouth that in **opening** eyes(publicity) I may herald the **open** secret of the gospel. (Paul is keen on verbal triads and this one lies in his Aramaic thinking not in the Greek). Paul desires as an ambassador AIZGADAH in chains I may speak boldly as is essential for me to speak.

¶ v.21ff But *that you may know anything closely affecting me* **LOTH** and *anything I see* Tychicus a beloved brother and trusty minister in our Lord will ensure you know. Paul does not wear his heart on his sleeve nor blurt out facts endangering Christianity in a letter-such detail he confides to confidants. “Peace be with the brothers and love with faith from God the Father and from our Lord Yeshua the king Messiah.”(Note again the Father-Son relationship sustains the Qnuma of divine identity in all NT writing –deriving from Jesus’ usage) Grace be with all those who love our Lord Yeshua Messiah or King without heresy corrupting the codex or corrupt ways. Amen”

FINIS

Bob the Scribbler Westgate 2013.