

Bible Outlines by [John T Polk II](#)
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All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.

Outline of the Bible Book of Ephesians

Ephesus = Completed Doctrine

[God Is Perfect]

Acts 18:24 - 20:1

Blueprint for Redemption

I. **Greeting: 1:1-2**

II. **God's Completed Plan 1:3 - 2:10** **Cf Romans 8:27-39; 16:25-26;** **Colossians 1:26; Hebrews 11:39, 40**

A. **Spiritual Blessings "In Christ" 1:3-14**

1. "Blessed us...in Christ" **1:3**
2. "Chose us in Him" **1:4**
3. "Predestined us" **1:5**
4. "Made us accepted" **1:6**
5. "We have redemption" **1:7a**
6. Grace abounded "toward us" **1:7b-8**
7. "Made known to us" **1:9-10**
8. "We have obtained an inheritance" **1:11-14**
 - a) according to "His will" **1:11**
 - b) conditioned upon trusting "in Christ" **1:12**
 - c) conditioned upon hearing "the word of truth" **1:13a**
 - d) conditioned upon accepting Holy Spirit's sealing **1:13-14**

Cf Acts 19:6

B. *Spiritual Nature of Christ's Body* 1:15 - 2:10

1. Paul thanked God for their faith and love **1:15-16**
2. Paul desired their greater understanding of:
 - a) "the knowledge of Him" **1:17**
 - b) "the hope of His calling" **1:18**
 - c) "the exceeding greatness of His power" toward believers **1:19**
 - d) the exaltation of Christ forever **1:20-21**

III. *Christ's Completed Work* 1:22 - 6:20

A. *The Church as Christ's Completed Body* 1:22-23

1. separated from "trespasses and sins" **2:1-3**
2. saved by grace "with Christ" **2:4-10**
 - a) God "made us alive together with Christ" **2:4-5**
Cf Romans 6:1-11
 - b) Christians "sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus"
2:6-7 Cf Colossians 1:13-14; Revelation 1:5-6
 - c) Saved NOT by *deserving* works, but *discerning* works that obey God **2:8-10**

B. *The Church as Christ's Completed Building* 2:11 - 3:21

1. Gentiles now included
 - a) Fleshly circumcision no distinction now **2:11-13**
 - b) Abolition of enmity between Jew and Gentile **2:14-18**
 - c) "Holy temple in the Lord" **2:19-22**
2. Gentiles now receive:
 - a) "dispensation of the grace of God" **3:1-2**
 - b) divinely inspired revelation **3:3-5**

c) deliberate inclusion "in Christ" **3:6-7**

3. Gentiles now are:

a) receivers of "the unsearchable riches of Christ" **3:8**

b) in "the fellowship of the mystery" **3:9**

c) in the church God eternally planned **3:10-13**

d) in the church that glorifies God **3:14-21**

C. *The Church as Christ's Completed Blueprint* 4:1 - 5:1

1. Doctrinally simple and singular **4:1-6**

2. Organizationally secure **4:7-16**

3. Morally separated **4:17-5:1**

D. *The Church as Christ's Completed Bride* 5:2 - 6:9

1. With a pure heart for promise **5:2-7**

2. With clear "eyes" of proposition **5:8-21**

3. With bodies for powerful purpose **5:22-6:9**

a) Husbands originate good for their wives **5:22-33**

b) Fathers originate good for their children **6:1-4**

c) Workers and employers originate good for each other **6:5-9**

E. *The Church as Christ's Completed Battle* 6:10-20

1. Commandingly Aimed 6:10-12

2. Confidently Armored 6:13-20

IV. Conclusion: 6:21-24

Ephesian Epitaphs:

1. The church:
 1. began there with Apollo's' incomplete doctrinal preaching (**Acts 18:24-19:7**);
 2. continued with Paul's 2-year "and a time" extension (**Acts 19:10, 22**);
 3. was strengthened by Paul's exhortation to the Ephesian elders (**Acts 20:16-21:1**);
 4. received the book of **Ephesians**;
 5. commended by Jesus as testing false apostles and outlasting difficulties, but **condemned** by Jesus as leaving their "first love" (**Revelation 2:1-7**). **No church was given more doctrinal purity than Ephesus and went so far away internally.**

2. **Corinthians** represented Achaia of Paul's 2nd journey, **Galatians** probably went to the churches of Paul's 1st journey, **Ephesians** may have been intended for circulation among the Asian churches (**Revelation 1:11**). It is possible, than, that this may have been "the epistle *from* Laodicea" mentioned in **Colossians 4:16**.

3. The books of **Ephesians** and **Colossians** are strikingly similar, and probably written at the same time.