

# BGM BIBLE COLLEGE

## The Epistle to the Ephesians is Divine Revelation

### Lecture 03 by Dr. Liaqat Qaiser

#### Chapter 1-14

##### Paul's Introduction And Address To The Saints

It is written:

“Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God”—

Behold, Paul declares who he is: not by the will of man, nor by tradition, but by the sovereign will of God he is appointed as an apostle of Christ Jesus.”

The letter is addressed unto the saints which are at Ephesus and to the faithful in Christ Jesus. These are not unbelievers; nay, but those who are born again and have found salvation in Christ.

They are saints, sanctified in Christ Jesus. Though they dwell in Ephesus, which is now called Turkey, they also abide in Christ.

Every believer is a citizen of two realms—geographically of the earth, and spiritually of the Kingdom of God.

Therefore, the epistle is written unto the redeemed, not unto those who are lost.

##### Blessing and Grace to the Faithful

it is written further:

“Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is a prayer for blessing—grace and peace”

be multiplied unto them

##### Spiritual Blessings in Christ

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.”

We are already a blessed people. These are not blessings we wait for—they are ours in Christ, already given.

##### Chosen before the Foundation of the World

Verse 4 says:

“According as He hath chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blameless before Him in love.” before the world began, God chose us. And unto what purpose?

That we should be holy, sanctified in love, and blameless before Him.

##### Predestined for Son ship

Verse 5:

“Having predestined us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.”

Behold, the eternal will of God is now fulfilled upon earth—what He purposed in heaven is accomplished in Christ.

### **To the Praise of His Glorious Grace**

Verse 6:

“To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved.”

Why were we chosen? That we might bring praise unto His glorious grace.

The glory, the majesty, the brilliance of God’s grace is made manifest in us, that the world may see and give Him praise.

### **Redemption through His Blood**

Verse 7:

“In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.”

What is redemption? It is the forgiveness of all our trespasses—sins, disobedience, rebellion, greed, and idolatry—all washed away by the blood of Christ. What a blessed transaction is this! We have been redeemed through the riches of His grace.

### **Wisdom and Understanding Lavished upon Us**

Verse 8:

“Wherein He hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence.”

God has not given sparingly, but abundantly. His grace hath come with wisdom and understanding, richly poured upon us.

### **The Mystery of His Will Revealed**

Verse 9:

“Having made known unto us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He hath purposed in Himself.”

What was in the heart of God is now revealed to us. His intent is no longer hidden.

### **All Things Gathered in Christ**

Verse 10:

“That in the dispensation of the fullness of times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth; even in Him.”

This is the mystery: that all creation—things in heaven and on earth—shall be gathered in Christ, under His headship.

The whole creation, including the Church, shall become one in Him.

### **Chosen and Appointed for His Glory**

Verses 11–12:

worketh all things after the counsel of His own will:

That we should be to “In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who the praise of His glory, who first trusted in Christ.”

We are His inheritance. We are chosen, and our very existence is to bring praise unto His glory.

### **Sealed with the Holy Spirit**

Verse 13:

in whom also aft“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: er that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise.”

When ye heard the Word and believed, you were sealed. What is that seal?

It is the Holy Ghost, the promised Spirit, foretold in the Old and New Covenants.

### **The Earnest of Our Inheritance**

Verse 14:

“Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory.”

The Holy Spirit is the down payment, the pledge of our inheritance, until the day of full redemption. God hath sealed them with the Spirit, sanctified them with blood, and ordained them from before the foundation of the world.

### **Our Inheritance and the Earnest of the Spirit**

For your inheritance—your portion—your heavenly reward is not of this earth alone, but is secured also in the heavenlies. It is not a mere promise, but the earnest, the down payment of that promise, has been given us from God Himself. The Holy Spirit hath been granted unto our hearts as the assurance of what is yet to come.

Therefore, we begin to comprehend what lies ahead.

### **The Seal of the Spirit**

This seal which is our inheritance shall be fully given unto us—the seal of the Holy Ghost, Which is God’s pledge within us, that we should be unto the praise of His glory.

### **Threefold Division of the Epistle**

Now, beloved, this epistle hath **Six chapters**.

And various men of God have sought to divide it into meaningful parts.

There is one interpretation given by a woman of God—her name is **Ruth Paxson**.

She hath proposed **three W’s** to define the structure of this letter.

What are these three W’s?

1. **Wealth** in Christ  
she declares that the first three chapters speak of our **wealth in Christ**.  
Yes, in the first three chapters is mentioned the unsearchable riches given unto us in Christ Jesus.
2. **Walk** on Earth  
the second portion, from chapter 4 verse 1 to chapter 6 verse 9,  
Exhorts us to walk upon the earth in a manner worthy of such heavenly riches.  
We who possess the treasures of heaven ought to live in the power of the Holy Spirit.
3. **Warfare** in the Spirit  
The third part of the letter begins at chapter 6, verse 10, and continues to the end—  
and it speaks of **our warfare**, our spiritual conflict.  
For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against the powers of darkness.

Thus, one structure is this:

- The first part (Chapters 1–3) reveals our **spiritual wealth** in Christ.

- The second part (Chapters 4:1–6:9) instructs us concerning our **walk**—  
That we live as children of God, united in the Church, loving and submitting in our families,  
diligent and honest in our work, gentle and kind to our children.  
All these pertain to our daily walk.
- The final part (Chapter 6:10 to the end) teaches us that we also have a **spiritual enemy**—the devil, the accuser, the tempter.  
He seeks to discourage, to press down, and to deceive.  
But God hath not left us defenceless; He hath given us the **armour of God**:
  - The **helmet of salvation**
  - The **breastplate of righteousness**
  - The **belt of truth**
  - The **shoes of the gospel of peace**
  - The **shield of faith**, by which we quench all the fiery darts of the wicked
  - And the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the Word of God.

### **Another Interpretation: Watchman Nee's Threefold Key**

Now, there is another division of this epistle which I personally cherish.  
It was taught by a great servant of God from China—**Watchman Nee**.

He summed up the whole epistle in **three simple words**:

1. **Sit**
2. **Walk**
3. **Stand**

All six chapters are encapsulated in these three words.

- **Sit**—Our position in Christ (Chapters 1–3)  
We are seated with Christ in the heavenly places, resting in the finished work of Calvary.
- **Walk**—Our conduct before men (Chapters 4–6:9)  
We walk in love, in unity, in holiness, as lights in the world.
- **Stand**—Our warfare against the enemy (Chapter 6:10–24)  
We stand firm in spiritual battle, clothed with the armour of God, resisting the devil.

This is the divine order:

First we must **sit** before we **walk**,  
and only then can we **stand** strong.

### **"In Jesus—With Jesus"**

This truth is revealed in the twentieth verse of the first chapter,  
And again in the sixth verse of the second chapter of the Epistle to the Ephesians.

### **Ephesians 1:20**

"...which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places..."

God raised up Jesus of Nazareth—who died upon the cross for the sins of the world—  
He bore their iniquity and gave Himself in their stead. And when He cried, "It is finished,"

On the third day, He was raised from the dead.  
**He made Jesus to sit in heavenly places at His own right hand.**

Now read further—**Ephesians 2:6:**

"And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

Here is a glorious mystery:

God not only raised Christ but **also raised us**—we who believe in Him.

By the operation of the Holy Spirit,

When we repented and placed our faith in Christ,

The Spirit of God performed a spiritual operation in us—

He joined us to Christ, made us one with Him.

**This is the work of the Holy Spirit!**

The first act: He joined us to Christ.

The next act: He raised us up together with Christ.

For the apostle saith that we were chosen in Christ from before the foundation of the world.

So when Christ rose from the dead, **we also were raised with Him.**

Even though this seems mysterious to the natural man,

Yet it is true: **Christ is our Representative**, our Mediator, our Forerunner.

What befell Him, befell us—for He stood in our place.

The judgment that fell upon Him on the cross,

It was our judgment.

And when we say, "Thank You, Jesus, for what You have done for me,"

The Holy Spirit begins His work within us—

He brings us into God,

He unites us spiritually and wholly with Christ—

**We are made alive with Him, in every way!**

**He made us alive together with Christ, and made us to sit with Him in the heavenly places.**

First, He raised Christ and made Him sit at His right hand.

To be seated means the work is finished—

the work of redemption is complete.

Christ is not pacing in anxiety—**He is seated**,

for the work of salvation is accomplished.

And now, Christ is seated in heavenly places at the right hand of the Father.

Then, when we heard the Word,

When we believed,

When we repented,

When we were sealed with the Spirit—

We were also raised from spiritual death,

We received new life,

We were united with Christ. **Why?**

**"And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus..."**

To whom does this apply?

**To the believers.**

This is our reality—it belongs to all who have believed.

He joined us,

He made us alive,

and then—**He made us sit together with Christ in heavenly places. He made us to sit with God the Father, in Christ Jesus.**

And for what purpose?

**Ephesians 2:7:**

"That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."

What then is our destiny?

We, who are Christians,

**are the people of the future.**

This is what the Word of God declares.

**Sit, Walk, Stand — the Revelation of Our Position in Christ (Based on Ephesians)**

**1. Sit — Our Position in Christ (Ephesians 2:6)**

all the religions of this world say: *Do this, do that, perform righteous deeds, for by your good works you may cross over.*

But the message of Christ is not "Do," it begins with "**Done.**"

God has already accomplished everything for you in Christ Jesus.

"But God... raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus." (Ephesians 2:6)

Christian life begins not with **doing**, but with **sitting**.

We come to Christ, and He makes us sit — not strive, not earn, but **rest** in what He has already completed. The believer who has never spiritually *sat* with Christ does not yet understand the riches of salvation.

They may be religious, but they lack the experience of the Spirit — they labour in the flesh, not in grace. Christianity is not a religion of efforts and rituals. It is a divine calling based on God's love:

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

When we truly believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit seals us, and the life of God — eternal life — enters us. Then we are seated with Christ, spiritually alive and united with Him.

## 2. Walk — Our Conduct in Christ (Ephesians 4:1)

once we are seated with Christ, now we are called to **walk** in a manner worthy of that calling.

**“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.” (Ephesians 4:1)**

There are five kinds of walk mentioned in Ephesians:

- **Walk worthy of your calling** (Ephesians 4:1)
- **Walk not as the Gentiles walk** (Ephesians 4:17)
- **Walk in love, as dear children** (Ephesians 5:1–2)
- **Walk as children of light** (Ephesians 5:8)
- **Walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise** (Ephesians 5:15)

This is the walk of the redeemed — those who are seated with Christ now walk in the light, in love, and in wisdom.

We do not walk to earn our salvation — we walk because we have been saved.

Our lifestyle reflects our calling; our steps reflect the One who called us.

## 3. Stand — Our Warfare in Christ (Ephesians 6:11–13)

after sitting with Christ and walking in His ways, we are called to **stand** against the powers of darkness.

**“Put on the whole armour of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” (Ephesians 6:11)**

The Christian life is not only of rest and walk, but also of **conflict**.

The enemy plots to destroy God's purpose in us. But God has given us every spiritual weapon. We are not called to fight in our own strength — we are called to **stand** in the full armour of God.

**“Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” (Ephesians 6:13)**

**“Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.” (Ephesians 6:16)**

**Stand — not waver. Stand — not fall. Stand — fully equipped.**

The battle is real, but so is the victory.

## Summary — the Divine Order of the Believer's Life

1. **Sit with Christ** — know your position in grace and rest in His finished work.
2. **Walk in Christ** — Let your life reflect your calling and the character of the Saviour.
3. **Stand for Christ** — be strong in the Lord, equipped with His armour, resisting every strategy of the enemy.

"What a privilege to sit with the King of kings and the Lord of lords!" "May we all experience the riches of His grace, walk in His power, and stand firm in His truth."

**Still Standing — With the Armour of God**

You shall **gird yourselves with the whole armour**,  
you shall also **fight the good fight**, you shall indeed **gain the victory**, your enemy shall **fall before you** —  
for **you are still standing!**

So if someone were to ask you,  
"What is the epistle to the Ephesians about?"  
You will say:

**Sit. Walk. Stand.**

Let us now go a bit further and look at a few more verses.

### **Paul — an Apostle by the Will of God (Ephesians 1:1)**

Let us begin at the beginning.  
Paul — who is he?  
He is not self-appointed.  
He is an **apostle by the will of God**.

“Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God...” (Ephesians 1:1)

**This is the foundation of his life.**

He did not come on his own, nor by any man's choice.

He is **sent by God**, according to God's divine will.

And friends, to **walk in the will of God** — to **live in it, and remain in it** — is the very **foundation, rock, and blessing** of every Christian's life.

### **To the Saints in Christ**

“...to the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus.” (Ephesians 1:1)

He writes not just to any group of people,  
but to the *saints* — those who are sanctified,  
those **in Christ Jesus**.

### **The Meaning of Apostle — Sent with Authority**

The Greek word for apostle is *apostolos* —  
from which we derive the English word **apostle** and the Urdu word **rasool**.

**What does “apostle” mean?**

Three key truths:

1. **He belongs to Christ.**  
Paul is of Christ — “*He belongs to Jesus.*”
2. **He is sent by Christ for the completion of His mission.**  
He is not self-appointed.  
He is **commissioned**.
3. **He is given authority and power.**  
He is a **representative of Christ**, sent with **delegated authority**,



empowered to fulfil the divine task.  
He is backed by the promises of God.

He who hears you hears Me“...” (Luke 10:16)

This is the meaning of “apostle” —  
one chosen, sent, and empowered by Christ to establish His Kingdom **in the hearts of men**  
through **the power of the Word** and **the Holy Spirit**.

### **Paul Walked in Apostolic Authority**

There was a time Paul was preaching,  
and a man stood in opposition, trying to hinder the Word.  
But the **Holy Ghost came upon Paul**,  
and he exercised his authority:

“O full of all subtlety and all mischief, thou child of the devil,  
thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?”  
(Acts 13:10)

Immediately, blindness came upon the man —  
this is **apostolic authority**, delegated by Christ.

### **Delegated Authority — Not Man's, but God's**

This authority is **delegated** —  
what does that mean?

It is **not the apostle's own**.  
It is **given by Christ**,  
Used only **according to His will**.  
He is merely a steward of divine power.

And therefore, **he who touches God's servant**,  
**touches the apple of God's eye**.

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