Ephesians (In-Depth Study)

Ephesians and Colossians are intimately connected. The great central thought of Colossians is the all-sufficiency of the Lord Jesus Christ. Colossians 2:3 declares: "In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." In Colossians 1:19 we read: "For it pleased the Father that in him (Christ) should all fullness dwell." Then in Colossians 2:9 "Christ is the fullness of the Godhead bodily," which means that HE ALONE IS NECESSARY AND SUFFICIENT FOR MAN'S SALVATION. The whole book of Colossians is based on the complete sufficiency of the Lord Jesus Christ and the book of Ephesians is a development of that same concept. Ephesians 1:9, 10 "Jesus is our all in all" is used at least 50 times in the book of Ephesians. Without Him there is nothing but disunity and disharmony.

Man is divided from man; class from class; nation from nation, ideology from ideology, and Gentile from Jew. The world without Christ is divided, disunited, and a fragmented world. What is true of the world is true of the individual. Inside of every person there is tension; and without the Lord Jesus Christ each person is a walking civil war. God did not mean for it to be that way. We are meant to be in fellowship with God and not estranged from Him. This disunity is not His plan for us at all.

When we walk with the Apostle Paul on his missionary journeys we find him in step with His new relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. We describe him as "soulbreathing." On his 2nd missionary journey he spent a great deal of time in Corinth (AD 52, 53). In fact, it was 52 AD when he wrote I Thessalonians, and the next year, II Thessalonians. These are the epistles of the second journey.

Ephesians (In-Depth Study) (Continued)

It was on his third journey that he spent a lot of time in Ephesus. During this time he wrote Galatians and I Corinthians in 55 AD – then in Philippi in 57 AD he wrote II Corinthians and then in 58 from Corinth he wrote the book of Romans. We have four epistles written on that third journey.

Paul became a prisoner in Rome in 62 AD and was there for two years and wrote Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon. These are called the prison epistles. We are emphasizing at this time one of those prison Epistles – Ephesians.

This letter has been described as a circular letter to the churches in the Roman province of Asia (Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.) Revelation 2:1, 8, 12, 18, 24; (Sardis 3:1, 7, 14) 7 churches of Revelation.

We ask "Why the letter to the Ephesians sent out?" It was sent out in 62 AD, delivered by Tychicus designed to correct believers in reverse gear in the Roman Province of Asia and to show them the need of constructing a Spiritual building of the soul - SHS (know how to breath spiritually – continually) and to ultimately move out on God's Grace Highway to the mountain peak of Echo mountain.