# "Live a Life Worthy of Your Calling"

An Introduction to Ephesians

### **Historical Background of The City of Ephesus**

#### The City of Ephesus

Paul stayed almost 3 years in Ephesus, and some amazing things happened (Acts 19:1-41)

- Paul Taught and Imparted to some disciples of John the Baptist about the life-changing gift of the Holy Spirit (19:1-7)
- He spent 3 months teaching in Jewish Synagogues, trying to persuade them of Jesus the Messiah (19:8)
- Paul spent 2 years teaching daily in "the school of Tyrannus" sharing the Gospel of the Kingdom throughout Asia (19:9-10)
- Paul performed extraordinary miracles of healing and casting out demons (19:11-12)
- Local exorcists respected and tried to use the name of Paul's Jesus (19:13-17)
- Many involved in sorcery and witchcraft burned their books valued at millions of dollars and gave up their practices in lights of God's power and message through Paul (19:18-20)
- Pagan Idol-makers losing money in the sale of their trinkets stir up a riot because of Paul's success in convincing people of the One true God (19:23-41)

"So the Word of the Lord was growing mightily and prevailing..."
(Acts 19:20)

## **How to Read Ephesians**

• The Structure and Flow of the Letter

Chapters 1-3

Chapters 4-6

- Some Amazing Topics & Series
  - We Have Access to Every Spiritual Blessing (1:3-14)
  - Amazing Grace, Not Being a "Good Person" (2:1-10)
  - Reconciliation Towards Peace (2:11-22)
  - The Unity the Holy Spirit Brings (4:1-16)
  - The Normal Christian Walk (4:17-5:21)
  - Sacred Marriages & Sacred Parenting (5:22-6:4)
  - Spiritual Warfare & the Armor of God (6:10-24)

## "Sit", "Walk", "Stand"

The "mystery" and wonderful counter-intuitive progression of the Christian Life

• SIT (2:6)

"You have been raised up with Christ and seated with Him in the heavenly places..."

• WALK (4:1)

"So...Walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called."

• STAND (6:11, 13-14)

"Put on the full amor of God so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil...so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, stand firm...Stand firm therefore..."