

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CENTER

1136 Baseline Road

Grand Island, New York

716-773-3748

www.bfcgi.org

THE LORD'S DAY

January 3, 2016 8:30 & 10:15 AM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Organ Prelude Carol Dammann

Piano Wendy Baldwin

Announcements Ron Mock

MEDITATION

Ephesians 1:1-2

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus: ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Doxology

Scripture Reading and Prayer

Psalm 31

Hymn 3 vs. 1

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn 302

“Lamb of God”

Communion followed by hymn 308

Message RUNNING WITH ENDURANCE IN 2016

Pastor Cal VanderMey

Hymn 426

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

Benediction

THE MINISTRY OF MISSION

For the glory of God, Bible Fellowship Center is committed to spreading the Good News of salvation, equipping the believers, that they might become more Christ-like, worship God and enjoy Him forever.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Youth Group Monday 6:30-8pm. Ages 8 and up

Prayer Meeting and Bible study Tuesday at 6:30pm - Ernie Beck

No Precept class on Tuesday with Wendy Baldwin at 6:30pm – begins January 19th

Men's Bible study Wednesday at 9:30am – Jim O'Rourke

Precept study Thursday at 9:15am. - Margaret Was

Adult Bible study Friday at 7pm - John Woodell leading

The offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary

Thanks for joining us at the BFC this morning!

Sunday messages are available online, CD or e-mail. See Bill Schultz

As with most of the shorter epistles, the book of Ephesians falls into two divisions that basically deal with matters relating to the establishment of the Christian Church. First there are the doctrines in chapters 1-3 that are so vital to a proper establishment of the church. Here, the stress is on our wealth in Christ and what He has accomplished for us; and our standing in the matter of salvation.

Chapters 4-6 then deal with our practical duties. In this section we see the walk of Christ that we should emulate in our daily living. We find also our steps in sanctification.

The city of Ephesus was the most important Asian crossroads city in what is now western Turkey. It was a seaport city found today in western Turkey. Paul, Timothy, and John knew that whole area very well, and made a lasting impact especially in Ephesus.

The temple and statue of Diana were the tourist draw in the ancient world. That temple and statue were destroyed 356 years before Christ, on the very day that Alexander the Great was born. Its reconstruction is said to have taken 220 years. The rebuilt Temple of Artemis ranked as one of the seven wonders of the ancient world until its destruction by the Goths in 263 AD. It was in this great wonder of the world that the Apostle Paul would announce the greatest wonder of the ancient world.

The Author is Paul the Apostle. He reminds them that it was the will of God that determined that Paul would also be an Apostle. An Apostle in Greek is “one sent with a commission.”—in other words a messenger. It was the highest office and held only by the twelve apostles including Matthias and Paul, an apostle born out of due time.

The saints and faithful in Ephesus are the subjects of this message. These are the ones who have been set apart from sin, and made righteous through the faith that was implanted in them by the Holy Spirit.

Paul speaks with the authority of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. “And” in this case suggest equivalence—the Lord Jesus is equal to the Father. Paul gives the standard greeting of most of the epistles—grace and peace. These are two hallmarks of the faith. Grace is God's unmerited favor to us in providing redemption, and peace is that which passes all understanding—peace with God brought through the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross.