



# Ephesians

New  
Testament

β 49th book of the Bible (out of 66)

β 0.50% of the verses in the Bible

β Written by Paul

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Paul was probably in prison in Rome when he wrote to this letter (c.60-62AD). It may have been written specifically to the Church in Ephesus or more likely, as a circular letter to that area of Asia. He'd been to Ephesus briefly on his Second Missionary Journey and for around three years as part of his Third (Acts 18,19). It was a large and important Roman city with an inland harbour, a massive amphitheatre and an 'impressive' pagan temple to Artemis. The ruins that exist there still look grand even now. Tradition remarks that John the Apostle and Mary, the mother of Jesus, both died there.

What does it mean for the Church to be unified? What are the implications for the society we live in? Paul was concerned that the Jewish and Gentile Christians should be one in thought, deed and in their

**Facts:** Ephesus is on the west coast of modern day Turkey. The Church there also got a small letter from John as part of the Book of Revelation.

praise to God. They were not though. How do *we* encourage each other today? Do *we* live as one family in God? Can this improve further? How? Can we reconcile ourselves to other people that aren't like us? We have been saved by Christ and now *our* lives should make a positive difference to others.

Near the end of the letter is the famous description of the Armour of God. As a church we shall be investigating this important topic in 2019. The spiritual sphere is as real as the physical one.

**Aim to read the whole book over the next two weeks.**