

Greetings, today our manna is from Exodus 32; Proverbs 8; John 11; Ephesians 1.

March 21 – Melchizedek Devotional Perspective

[Note: **For teaching purposes only**, underlines, bold font, and highlight emphasis have been used in PDFs.]
Scripture Source: e-Sword TS2009 unless otherwise noted: <https://www.e-sword.net/>

Exodus 32

The sin of the golden calf is recorded in Exodus 32. This narrative could easily be picked up after reading Exodus 24. Moses is up on the mount receiving the 1st set of stone tablets; this was his 8th accent. The people murmur because Moses was gone so long; 40 days and 40 nights. They turn to Aaron because if you recall; Aaron and Hur were left in charge (Ex. 24:14).

It had not been long, since the people had come out of Egyptian paganism. Now they were longing to return to dead pagan idols and rituals. Looking back over this account, one wonders if Aaron had been exposed to these Egyptian rituals more than Moses; since Moses had escaped to Midian 40 years prior to being called by YHWH.

Looking at Aarons prompt response to the people, it appears that Aaron may have been quite accustomed to forming idols by the melting of metals and use of engraving tools. He not only makes the golden calf that the people then proclaim to be the one that brought them out of Egypt; but Aaron goes on to build a slaughter place for it!!! Aaron saw the excitement of the crowd and one can't help but think 'pride' slipped into Aaron. He then declares to the people that, 'Tomorrow is a festival to YHWH'.

What? It was bad enough making the golden calf idol; **now Aaron is associating its worship with YHWH!** YHWH doesn't share His glory within anyone or anything! This is a monumental FAILURE! One would think today's society would have learned from this past lesson; but the majority have not. There is no difference in celebrating "GOD" with 'Christmas' trees and the worship of pagan Tammuz (born on Dec. 25th), Santa Claus (Satan Lucas – sigil magic), Easter rabbits ('Ishtar' fertility mother goddess worship – like Artemis in Ephesus), or other little 'g' gods around the world. We worship YHWH ONLY and follow His feast days, which are His rehearsals with His bride!

YHWH is very much aware of what was taking place at the foot of the mount. He instructs Moses that the people had quickly turned away from Him and instructs Moses to get down from the mount as YHWH contemplates consuming the people with His burning wrath.

Moses intercedes on behalf of the people; Moses asks that He remember the covenant to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; thus, YHWH relents.

Moses descends the mount with the 1st set of tablets, picking up Joshua on the way down who had gone up with him. They find the people worshipping the golden calf; Moses rebukes the people; throws down and breaks the 1st set of stone tablets symbolizing the Book of the Covenant being broken; burns and grinds the golden calf, strews it on water, and makes the people drink; rebukes Aaron; Moses asks, 'Who is for YHWH?' - the tribe of Levi steps forth; Moses tells the tribe of Levi to sword up and go through the crowd with 3,000 dying that day; Moses states the tribe of Levi are ordained 'this' day; Moses then tells the people he is going back up the mount to see if he could atone for their sin; Moses was willing to have his name blotted out of YHWH's Book; YHWH does not permit this by Moses, but in so many words says He will deal with the situation and that the people will be plagued because of the sin of the golden calf.

he Golden Calf

Exo 32:1 And when the people saw that Mosheh was so long in coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aharon, and said to him, "Arise, make us mighty ones who go before us. For this Mosheh, the man who brought us up out of the land of Mitsrayim, we do not know what has become of him."

Exo 32:2 And Aharon said to them, "Take off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me."

Exo 32:3 "And all the people took off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aharon.

Exo 32:4 And he took *this* from their hand, and he formed it with an engraving tool, and made a moulded calf. And they said, "This is your mighty one, O Yisra'ël, that brought you out of the land of Mitsrayim!"

Exo 32:5 And Aharon saw and built a slaughter-place before it. And Aharon called out and said, "Tomorrow is a festival to הוה'."

Exo 32:6 And they rose early on the next day, and offered ascending offerings, and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

Exo 32:7 And הוה' said to Mosheh, "Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Mitsrayim have corrupted themselves.

Exo 32:8 "They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them. They have made themselves a moulded calf, and have bowed themselves to it and

slaughtered to it, and said, ‘This is your mighty one, O Yisra’ël, who brought you out of the land of Mitsrayim!’ ”

Exo 32:9 And יהוה said to Mosheh, “I have seen this people, and see, it is a stiff-necked people!

Exo 32:10 “And now, let Me alone, that My wrath might burn against them and I consume them and I make of you a great nation.”

Exo 32:11 But Mosheh pleaded with יהוה his Elohim, and said, “יהוה, why does Your wrath burn against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Mitsrayim with great power and with a strong hand?

Exo 32:12 “Why should the Mitsrites speak, and say, ‘For evil He brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from the heat of Your wrath, and relent from this evil to Your people.

Exo 32:13 “Remember Abraham, Yitshaq, and Yisra’ël, Your servants, to whom You swore by Yourself, and said to them, ‘I increase your seed like the stars of the heavens. And all this land that I have spoken of I give to your seed, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ”

Exo 32:14 And יהוה relented from the evil which He said He would do to His people.

Exo 32:15 And Mosheh turned and went down from the mountain, and in his hand were the two tablets of the Witness, tablets written on both their sides, written on the one and on the other.

Exo 32:16 And the tablets were the work of Elohim, and the writing was the writing of Elohim engraved on the tablets.

Exo 32:17 And Yehoshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted and he said to Mosheh, “A noise of battle in the camp!”

Exo 32:18 But he said, “It is not the sound of those who shout of might, nor is it the sound of those who cry out in weakness, but the sound of singing that I hear.”

Exo 32:19 And it came to be, as soon as he came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing. And Mosheh’s displeasure burned, and he threw the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.

Exo 32:20 And he took the calf which they had made, and burned it in the fire, and ground it into powder, and scattered it on the face of the water and made the children of Yisra’ël drink it.

Exo 32:21 And Mosheh said to Aharon, “What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?”

Exo 32:22 And Aharon said, “Do not let the displeasure of my master burn. You know the people, that it is in evil.

Exo 32:23 “And they said to me, ‘Make us mighty ones who go before us. For this Mosheh, the man who brought us out of the land of Mitsrayim, we do not know what has become of him.’

Exo 32:24 “And I said to them, ‘Whoever has gold, let them take it off.’ And they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and this calf came out.”

Exo 32:25 And Mosheh saw that the people were let loose, for Aharon had let them

loose, to their shame among their enemies.

Exo 32:26 And Mosheh stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, “Who is for יהוה? Come to me.” And all the sons of Lěwi gathered themselves to him.

Exo 32:27 And he said to them, “Thus said יהוה Elohim of Yisra’ěl: ‘Each one put his sword on his side, pass over to and fro from gate to gate in the camp, and each one kill his brother, and each one his friend, and each one his relative.’ ”

Exo 32:28 And the sons of Lěwi did according to the word of Mosheh. And about three thousand men of the people fell that day.

Exo 32:29 And Mosheh said, “You are ordained for יהוה today – since each one has been against his son and his brother – so as to bring upon you a blessing today.”

Exo 32:30 And it came to be on the next day that Mosheh said to the people, “You, you have sinned a great sin. **And now I am going up to יהוה** – if I might atone for your sin.”

This is Moses’ 9th ascent up the mount.

Exo 32:31 And Mosheh returned to יהוה and said, “Oh, these people have sinned a great sin, and have made for themselves a mighty one of gold!

Exo 32:32 “And now, if You would forgive their sin, but if not, please blot me out of Your book which You have written.”

Exo 32:33 And יהוה said to Mosheh, “Whoever has sinned against Me, I blot him out of My book.

Exo 32:34 “And now, go, lead the people to the place of which I have spoken to you. See, My Messenger goes before you. And in the day of My visitation I shall visit their sin upon them.”

Exo 32:35 And יהוה plagued the people because they made the calf, which Aharon made.

The people had broken several aspects of the Book of the Covenant and now the Book of the Law, their tutor, would enter the picture. They would no longer be His kingdom of priests; but a nation with a priest. The Book of the Law would stand as a witness against them.

Gal 3:10 For as many as are of works of Torah [Book of the Law] are under the curse, for it has been written, **“Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all that has been written in the Book of the Torah [Law], to do them.”** [Deu 27:26](#).

Gal 3:11 And that no one is declared right by Torah before Elohim is clear, for **“The righteous shall live by belief.”** [Hab 2:4](#).

Gal 3:12 And the Torah [Book of the Law] is not of belief, but **“The man who does them shall live by them.”** [Lev 18:5](#).

Gal 3:13 [Messiah redeemed us from the curse of the Torah \[Book of the Law\]](#), having become a curse for us – for it has been written, **“Cursed is everyone who hangs upon a tree.”** –

[Deu 21:23.](#)

[Gal 3:14](#) in order that the **blessing of Abraham might come upon the nations in Messiah יהושע, to receive the promise of the Spirit through belief.**

Proverbs 8

Pro 8:1 Does not **wisdom call**, And **understanding lift up her voice**?

This is so cool! In Ephesians, Paul prays that the set-apart ones gain **wisdom and understanding**. The divine timing within this devotional is awesome! This is also what we are doing! We are gaining wisdom and understanding as He speaks to each heart through our devotional time with Him. Proverbs 8:21 states he bestows substance on those who love Him and He fills our treasuries! Wow! Did you know His set-apart ones have a treasury?

Matthew 6: **19**“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, **20**but **lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven**, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

The Blessings of Wisdom

Pro 8:1 Does not wisdom call, And understanding lift up her voice?

Pro 8:2 On the top of the heights along the way, Between the paths she has taken her stand.

Pro 8:3 Beside the gates, leading to the city, At the entrances, she shouts:

Pro 8:4 “O men, I call, to you, And my voice is to the sons of men.

Pro 8:5 “You simple ones, understand insight, And you fools, be of an understanding heart.

Pro 8:6 “Listen, for I speak noble words, And the opening of my lips is about straightness;

Pro 8:7 “For my mouth speaks truth; And wrongness is an abomination to my lips.

Pro 8:8 “All the words of my mouth are in righteousness, None of them twisted or crooked,

Pro 8:9 “All of them plain to him who understands, And straight to those who find knowledge.

Pro 8:10 “Accept my discipline, and not silver, And knowledge rather than choice gold;

Pro 8:11 “For wisdom is better than rubies, And all delights are not comparable to her.

Pro 8:12 “I, wisdom, have dwelt with insight, And I find knowledge, foresight.

Pro 8:13 “The fear of יהוה is to hate evil. I have hated pride and arrogance, And the evil way, And the perverse mouth.

Pro 8:14 “Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom; I am understanding, mightiness is mine.

- Pro 8:15 “By me sovereigns reign, And rulers make righteous inscriptions.
- Pro 8:16 “By me princes rule, and nobles, All the judges of the earth.
- Pro 8:17 “**I love those who love me, And those who earnestly seek me do find me.**
- Pro 8:18 “Riches and esteem are with me, Enduring wealth and righteousness.
- Pro 8:19 “My fruit is better than gold and fine gold, And my increase than choice silver.
- Pro 8:20 “I walk in the way of righteousness, In the midst of the paths of right-ruling,
- Pro 8:21 “**To bestow substance on those who love me, And to fill their treasuries.**
- Pro 8:22 “יהוה possessed me, The beginning of His way, As the first of His works of old.
- Pro 8:23 “I was set up ages ago, at the first, Before the earth ever was.
- Pro 8:24 “When there were no depths I was brought forth, When there were no springs heavy with water.
- Pro 8:25 “Before mountains were sunk, Before the hills, I was brought forth,
- Pro 8:26 “Before He had made the earth and the fields, Or the first dust of the world.
- Pro 8:27 “When He prepared the heavens, I was there, When He inscribed a circle on the face of the deep,
- Pro 8:28 “When He set the clouds above, When He made the fountains of the deep strong,
- Pro 8:29 “When He gave to the sea its law, So that the waters would not transgress His mouth, When He inscribed the foundations of the earth,
- Pro 8:30 “**Then I was beside Him, a master workman, And I was His delight, day by day Rejoicing before Him all the time,**
- Pro 8:31 “**Rejoicing in the world, His earth; And my delights were with the sons of men.**
- Pro 8:32 “And now, listen to me, you children, For blessed are they who guard my ways.
- Pro 8:33 “**Listen to discipline and become wise,** And do not refuse it.
- Pro 8:34 “Blessed is the man who listens to me, **Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors.**
- Pro 8:35 “For whoever finds me shall find life, And obtain favour from יהוה,
- Pro 8:36 “But he who sins against me injures himself; All who hate me love death!”

John 11

Ecc 7:1 A good name is better than precious oil, and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

The Death of Lazarus

Joh 11:1 And a certain one was sick, El'azar from Bëyth Anyah, the village of Miryam

and her sister Martha.

Joh 11:2 (Now it was Miryam who anointed the Master with perfume and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother El'azar was sick).

Joh 11:3 Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, “Master, see, he whom You love is sick.”

Joh 11:4 But when יהושע heard, He said, “This sickness is not unto death, but for the esteem of Elohim, so that the Son of Elohim might be esteemed by it.”

Joh 11:5 Now יהושע loved Martha and her sister and El'azar .

Joh 11:6 Therefore, when He heard that he was sick, then indeed He stayed at the place where He was, two more days.

Joh 11:7 Then after this He said to the taught ones, “Let us go back to Yehudāh.”

Joh 11:8 The taught ones said to Him, “Rabbi, the Yehudim were but now seeking to stone You, and are You going back there?”

Joh 11:9 יהושע answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.

Joh 11:10 “But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.”

Joh 11:11 He said this, and after that He said to them, “Our friend El'azar has fallen asleep, but I am going there, to wake him up.”

Joh 11:12 Therefore the taught ones said to Him, “Master, if he has fallen asleep he shall recover.”

Joh 11:13 But יהושע had spoken about his death, whereas they thought that He spoke of taking rest in sleep.

Joh 11:14 So then יהושע said to them plainly, “El'azar has died.

Joh 11:15 “And for your sake I am glad I was not there, in order for you to believe. But let us go to him.”

Joh 11:16 T'oma, who is called the Twin, then said to his fellow taught ones, “Let us also go, so that we die with Him.”

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

Joh 11:17 Therefore, when יהושע arrived, He found that he had already been four days in the tomb.

Joh 11:18 Now Běyth Anyah was near Yerushalayim, about [fifteen stadia^a](#) away.

Footnote: ^aAbout 3 kilometres or 2 miles.

Joh 11:19 And many of the Yehudim had come to Martha and Miryam, to comfort them concerning their brother.

Joh 11:20 Martha, then, when she heard that יהושע was coming, met Him, but Miryam was sitting in the house.

Joh 11:21 Martha, then, said to יהושע, “Master, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.

Joh 11:22 “But even now I know that whatever You might ask of Elohim, Elohim shall give You.”

Joh 11:23 יהושע said to her, “Your brother shall rise again.”

Joh 11:24 Martha said to Him, “I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

If Martha would have answered totally correct. Yahusha would not have need to go on and clarify that He was the Resurrection and the Life. This should dispel the thought that our soul sleeps in the grave in a rotting corpse. Clean does not dwell in unclean.

Joh 11:25 יהושע said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he dies, he shall live.”

Joh 11:26 “And everyone that is living and believing in Me shall never die at all. Do you believe this?”

Do we believe this? Martha’s statement in John 11:27 seems to convey that she didn’t fully understand but she did believe that Yahusha was the Messiah. Afterall, at this point, she was overwhelmed with grief.

Joh 11:27 She said to Him, “Yes, Master, I believe that You are the Messiah, the Son of Elohim, who is coming into the world.”

Lazarus (El’azar) is sick. He is the brother to Mary (Miriam) and Martha. (Note: It is this Mary that later anoints the Master with perfume and wipes His feet with her hair.) Mary and Martha send word to Yahusha to inform him of Lazarus’s illness.

Upon hearing Lazarus is ill, Yahusha tells the ‘why’ behind this sickness. Often, we ask, why did this have to happen? **Here Yahusha explains the ‘why’.**

Joh 11:4 But when יהושע heard, He said, “**This sickness is not unto death, but for the esteem of Elohim, so that the Son of Elohim might be esteemed by it.**”

The scripture clearly states that **Yahusha loved Mary, Martha, and Lazarus**. This is important to know because His delay in responding could be viewed as a lack of caring. After two days of receiving word, he tells his taught ones, ‘Let us go back to Judah’. They question his logic in returning to Judah since they know the Yehudim were out to stone him there.

He then tells them plainly, that Lazarus is dead and that He was glad He was not there so that His taught ones would believe. **Believe what? What was this all about?** Yahusha was teaching them and others present that **He was the Resurrection AND the Life!**

Lazarus had been in the tomb 4 days; leaving no doubt that he was dead. Mourners surrounded Mary and Martha; as well as Yehudim that had come to comfort them. Yahusha encounters both Martha and Mary just outside the village. He had only been about 2 miles away from them when all this was taking place. Again, He could have come immediately and healed Lazarus and all would have rejoiced; but Yahusha loved them MORE than that. **He wanted them to rejoice and know that He was the Resurrection AND the Life** because it wouldn't be long before His appointed time of the Passover when they would see Him placed in a similar tomb.

Yahusha Weeps

Joh 11:28 And having said this she went away and called her sister Miryam secretly, saying, "The Teacher is here and calls you."

Joh 11:29 When she heard, she rose up quickly and came to Him.

Joh 11:30 And יהושע had not yet come into the village, but was in the place where Martha met Him.

Joh 11:31 Therefore the Yehudim who were with her in the house, and were comforting her, when they saw that Miryam rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there."

Joh 11:32 Miryam, therefore, when she came where יהושע was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Master, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

Joh 11:33 יהושע, therefore, when He saw her weeping, and the Yehudim who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled,

Joh 11:34 and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Master, come and see."

Joh 11:35 יהושע wept.

Joh 11:36 The Yehudim therefore said, "See how He loved him!"

Joh 11:37 And some of them said, "Was this One, who opened the eyes of the blind, not also able to prevent this one from dying?"

So why did Yahusha weep? He wept because He empathized with the people and their limited understanding. He wept because He saw little faith and hope. He wept for their anguish of heart. He wept for the ‘thought’ that He would not be there for them. He did not weep because of the death of Lazarus; because He knew he has conquered death. He was the Resurrection AND the Life. He had to teach this very difficult lesson with those closest to Him and to the gathering crowd; all the tears would turn into rejoicing! Well maybe not ‘all’; some of them would be the very ones to instigate a plan against Yahusha; their evil plan would instead be used as the backdrop of His coming Resurrection.

Yahusha Raises Lazarus

Joh 11:38 יהושע, therefore, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone lay against it.

Joh 11:39 יהושע said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of him who had died, said to Him, “Master, already he smells, for it is four days.”

Joh 11:40 יהושע said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you believe, you shall see the esteem of Elohim?”

Joh 11:41 So they took away the stone where the dead man was laid. And יהושע lifted up His eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me.

Joh 11:42 “And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the crowd standing by I said this, in order that they believe that You sent Me.”

Joh 11:43 And when He had said this, He cried with a loud voice, “**El'azar, come out!**”

Joh 11:44 And he who died came out bound feet and hands with wrappings, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. יהושע said to them, “Loosen him, and let him go.”

As the stone of Lazarus’ grave is rolled away; Yahusha cries with a loud voice to the very dead Lazarus, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ Lazarus hobbles out all bound in his linen burial wrappings and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Lazarus was loosened from his wrappings and lived! Please note all the similarities between Lazarus’ burial and Yahusha’s; the grave; the stone rolled away; the head cloth.

Those that did NOT believe and rejoice; go and report to the Pharisees. The Pharisees feared losing **their ‘power and honor of man’ and ‘their’ nation**. Subsequently, Caiaphas (Qayapha) being high priest that year, unknowingly proclaims the prophesy of Yahusha’s death for the nation by saying: Joh 11:50 neither do you consider that it is better for us that one man die for the people than that the entire nation should perish.”

John 11:52 tells us even more! [Joh 11:52](#) and [not for the nation only, but to gather together into one the children of Elohim who were scattered abroad.](#) This is speaking of the 'one new man' in Yahusha HaMashiach! We are included in this! He will be gathering the children of Elohim from all around the world! Praise Yah!

The Plot to Kill Jesus

[Joh 11:45](#) Therefore many of the Yehudim who had come to Miryam, and had seen what יהושע did, believed in Him.

[Joh 11:46](#) But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them what יהושע did.

[Joh 11:47](#) So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? Because this Man does many signs.

[Joh 11:48](#) "If we let Him alone like this, they all shall believe in Him, and the Romans shall come and take away from us both our place and nation."

[Joh 11:49](#) And one of them, Qayapha, being high priest that year, said to them, "You know naught,

[Joh 11:50](#) neither do you consider that it is better for us that one man die for the people than that the entire nation should perish."

[Joh 11:51](#) But he did not say this from himself, but being high priest that year he prophesied that יהושע was about to die for the nation,

[Joh 11:52](#) and not for the nation only, but to gather together into one the children of Elohim who were scattered abroad.

[Joh 11:53](#) So from that day on they plotted to kill Him.

[Joh 11:54](#) יהושע therefore no longer went openly among the Yehudim, but went from there into the country near the wilderness, to a city called Ephrayim, and remained there with His taught ones.

[Joh 11:55](#) Now the Pěsaḥ of the Yehudim was near, and many went from the country up to Yerushalayim before the Pěsaḥ, to set themselves apart.

[Joh 11:56](#) And so they were seeking יהושע, and spoke among one another, standing in the Set-apart Place, "What do you think? Is He not coming to the festival at all?"

[Joh 11:57](#) And both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given a command, that if anyone knew where He was, he should disclose it, in order for them to seize Him.

Ephesians 1

Who did many of the people worship in Ephesus? The Goddess Artemis

Seven Quick Facts About the Artemis Temple: **Location:** Ephesus (Present day Turkey) **Built:** Around 323 BC **Function:** Temple to Goddess Artemis **Destroyed:** 262 AD by Goths **Size:** Length 425 ft. (129m) **Made of:** Mostly marble **Other:** Largest in a series of temples to Artemis on this site.

Excerpt: <http://www.unmuseum.org/mob/ephesus.htm>

The goddess was originally, before her cult was taken over by the Greeks, called "Artimus", and [her temple](#) - one of the [Seven Wonders of the Ancient World](#) - received gifts from the [Lydian king Croesus](#) (c.560-c.547). She is related to other Anatolian mother goddesses, like [Cybele](#).
Excerpt: <https://www.livius.org/articles/religion/artemis-of-ephesus/>

F. B. Myer gives a concise introduction to Ephesians: Paul's first visit to Ephesus is relayed in [Act 18:19-21](#). The work commenced then was carried on by **Apollos**. On **Paul's second visit he remained three years**. Later, on his way to Jerusalem, he held an affecting interview at Miletus with the elders of the Ephesian church. This Epistle was addressed to that church about four years afterward, during the early part of his imprisonment at Rome, and immediately after that to the Colossians, to which it bears a close resemblance.

Paul begins his letter to the Ephesians by expounding affirming truths of Yahusha HaMashiach and that in Him we have been adopted as sons. Paul knew Ephesus was saturated with Artemis worship. The temple was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Many made their living off selling souvenirs of Artemis and her temple.

Therefore, Paul lays out the firm foundation that the Ephesians had begun to build on. The greeting is clear as to who Paul is and who they are. Paul clearly states he is an emissary or apostle of Yahusha HaMashiach. He addresses the letter to the set-apart ones in Ephesus; those true to Yahusha HaMashiach.

Greeting

Eph 1:1 Sha'ul, an emissary of יהושע Messiah by the desire of Elohim, to the set-apart ones who are in Ephesos, and true to Messiah יהושע:

Eph 1:2 Favour to you and peace from Elohim our Father and the Master יהושע Messiah.

Spiritual Blessings in Christ

Eph 1:3 Blessed be the Elohim and Father of our Master יהושע Messiah, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Messiah,

Eph 1:4 even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that [we should be set-apart and blameless before Him, in love,](#)^a Footnote: ^aSee also [2Th 2:13](#).

Eph 1:5 having previously ordained us to adoption as sons through יהושע Messiah to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His desire,

Eph 1:6 to the praise of the esteem of His favour with which He favoured us in the Beloved,

Eph 1:7 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of trespasses, according to the riches of His favour,

He states through Yahusha's blood we are redeemed: Eph 1:7 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of trespasses, according to the riches of His favour,

Eph 1:8 which He has lavished on us in all wisdom and insight,

Eph 1:9 having made known to us the secret of His desire, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Him,

Eph 1:10 to administer at the completion of time, to gather together in one all in Messiah, both which are in the heavens and which are on earth, in Him,

Eventually to become the 'one new man' or body in Him: Eph 1:10 to administer at the completion of time, to gather together in one all in Messiah, both which are in the heavens and which are on earth, in Him,

Eph 1:11 in whom also we did obtain an inheritance, being previously ordained according to the purpose of Him working all *matters* according to the counsel of His desire,

Eph 1:12 for us to be the praise of His esteem – those having first trusted in Messiah,

Eph 1:13 in whom you also, having heard the word of the truth, the Good News of your deliverance, in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Set-apart Spirit of promise,

Eph 1:14 who is the pledge of our inheritance, until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His esteem.

Sealed with the Set-apart Spirit of promise:

Eph 1:13 in whom you also, having heard the word of the truth, the Good News of your deliverance, in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Set-apart Spirit of promise, Eph 1:14 who is the pledge of our inheritance, until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His esteem.

Paul goes on to **give thanksgiving and prayers for them**. Paul prays for them to have:

1. **A spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,**
2. **Eyes of understanding,**
 - a. That you know what is the expectation of His calling
 - b. What are the riches of the esteem of His inheritance in the set-apart ones
 - c. What is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us
 - d. What was dynamically worked through Messiah when He was raised from the dead and seated at His right hand.
 - i. Far above all rule
 - ii. Far above all authority

- iii. Far above all power
- iv. Far above all mastery
- v. Far above every name that is named [not only in this age but the age to come]
- vi. All has been put under His feet
- vii. He is Head over all the assembly, the body, the completeness in Him that fills all in all.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

Eph 1:15 For this reason I too, having heard of your belief in the Master יהושע and your love for all the set-apart ones,

Eph 1:16 do not cease giving thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers,

Eph 1:17 that the Elohim of our Master יהושע Messiah, the Father of esteem, would give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,

Eph 1:18 the eyes of your understanding^b being enlightened, so that you know what is the expectation of His calling, and what are the riches of the esteem of His inheritance in the set-apart ones, **Footnote: ^b Luk 24:45.**

Eph 1:19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who are believing, according to the working of His mighty strength,

Eph 1:20 which He wrought in the Messiah when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenlies,

Eph 1:21 far above all rule and authority and power and mastery, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

Eph 1:22 **And He put all under His feet,** **Psa 8:6** and gave Him to be head over all, to the assembly,

Eph 1:23 which is His body, the completeness of Him who fills all in all.

Line upon line, precept upon precept, Paul has been used as an instrument to tear down pagan worship in their lives and has started them building on the firm foundation of Truth; Yahusha HaMashiach. Brick upon brick, Paul exalts the esteem of YHWH and builds up their knowledge and understanding.

Shalom ~ Libby

Devotional Reading Plan Link: <http://www.mcheyne.info/calendar.pdf>