

...the first of these is the fact that the ...

...the second of these is the fact that the ...

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...the tenth of these is the fact that the ...

Paul's Journeys



— 2nd Missionary Journey



Some Facts About Ephesus:

- the largest, most “important” city in Asia.
- perhaps 100,000 people or more.
- capital of the Roman province of Asia.
- driven by commerce & trade.
- large dredged port, in which the majority of all goods going to & from Rome passed through.
- very cosmopolitan & multi-cultural.
- large Jewish population.

Some Facts About Ephesus:

- a religious centre for worship:
 - Temple of Artemis/Diana.
 - goddess of fertility.
 - over 10,000 temple prostitutes.
 - significant industry within Ephesus was manufacturing silver shrines in honour of both Diana & the Emperor.
 - Acts 19 – account of Paul’s visit and the riot that resulted.

Conclusions:

- In many ways, Ephesus was “*the place to be*”
 - very wealthy commercial center
 - political center
 - religious & cultural center

People did not move to Ephesus for its beauty, as much as for its opportunities in terms of wealth & power.

The Church at Ephesus:

- begun by the Apostle Paul – approx A.D. 48-50
- pastored by Timothy for many years.
- Timothy replaced as pastor by the Apostle John
 - John pastored Ephesus prior to being banished to Patmos, where he was given the Revelation of Jesus.
- John replaced by Onesimus (Paul's ltr to Philemon)

Paul's Letter To The Church At Ephesus

From Who: The Apostle Paul.

From Where: Prison in Rome.

Date: A.D. 61-62.

To Whom: The Christians living in Ephesus.

Purpose: To encourage & instruct the followers of Jesus Christ.

Theme: God's work through Jesus in creating a New Society of people.

1. Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus . . .

To the (people) in Christ Jesus . . .

Grace and peace to you from . . . Jesus Christ.

Point #1: Jesus Christ is the foundation of
everything that Paul is about to say!

Nature

The Church

IS

Christology

Purpose

The Church

DOES

Missiology

Structures

The Church

ORGANIZES

Ecclesiology

2. *To the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:*

Two contexts for the Ephesian Christians:

- a. They live in Ephesus.
but
- b. They belong to Jesus Christ.
“to the faithful in Christ Jesus.”

Greek: pistos - those having faith
(i.e. – belief)
- those being faithful
(i.e. – fidelity)

Point #2:

Christians actively live in two worlds:

- we are in Christ
- we are in Calgary

“Many of our spiritual troubles arise from our failure to remember that we are citizens of two kingdoms. We tend to either pursue Christ and withdraw from the world, or become preoccupied with the world and forget that we are also in Christ.”

John Stott

Key Question:

*How do I live effectively in “two kingdoms”
at the same time?*

- *How do I live well in Jesus?*
- *How do I live well in this world?*

A. I Learn the art of “Double Listening”:

- I listen humbly to the Word of God.
- I listen critically to the world.

A. I Learn the art of ‘Double Listening’:

B. I practice ‘grace & peace’.

*Grace & peace to you through God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (v. 2)*

Point #3:

As followers of Jesus we are called to demonstrate his grace and his peace!

How does God's *grace & peace* alter
the way you live your life?

- Are you known as a person of grace?
- Are you known as a person of peace?
- Do you practice “double listening”?

How can we become known as a
congregation full of *grace & peace*
this year?

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every sale, purchase, and payment must be properly documented to ensure the integrity of the financial statements. This includes recording the date, amount, and purpose of each transaction.

Secondly, the document highlights the need for regular reconciliation of bank accounts. By comparing the company's records with the bank statements, any discrepancies can be identified and corrected promptly. This process helps to prevent errors and ensures that the cash balance is always up-to-date.

Another key aspect is the proper classification of expenses. It is crucial to distinguish between personal and business expenses to avoid any potential tax issues. Business expenses should be clearly identified and supported by receipts or invoices.

The document also addresses the importance of timely payment of bills and taxes. Delaying payments can lead to penalties and interest charges, which can significantly impact the company's cash flow. Therefore, it is recommended to establish a schedule for reviewing and paying all obligations.

Finally, the document stresses the value of seeking professional advice. A qualified accountant or tax advisor can provide valuable insights and ensure that the company's financial practices are in full compliance with the law. This is particularly important for complex transactions or when dealing with specific tax regulations.