

# EPHESIANS - Chapters 4-6 - The believer's walk with Christ



Pastor Tom Gang - Sunday, March 7, 2010

Last week we began our study of Ephesians 4:7-16. The theme of this passage is \_\_\_\_\_. As every responsible parent desires for their children to grow up and mature into productive and successful adults, so God the Father also wants his children to grow up and mature into a responsible fruit-bearing \_\_\_\_\_. As the body of Christ we have a two-fold purpose: to make disciples of every nation and to build up and strengthen our local church body. In order for this to happen each member must do their part in this construction project. Therefore, each member must \_\_\_\_\_; each individual must always be in the process of maturing.

## EPHESIANS 4:7-16 - Christian maturity - part two

### 1. Provision for maturity - Ephesians 4:7-11

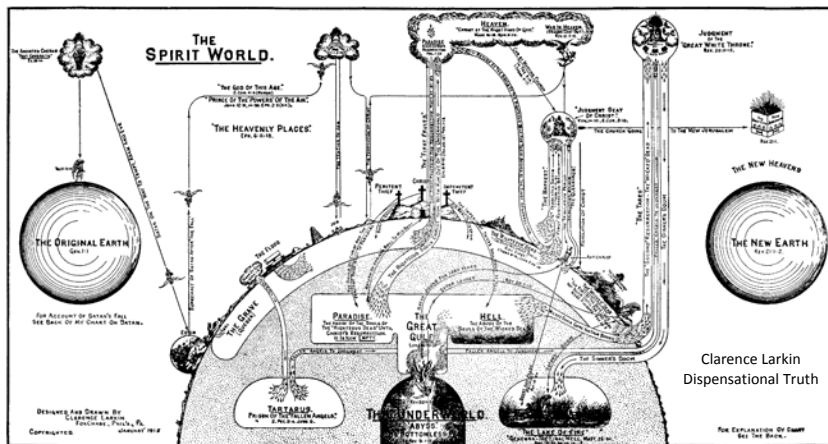
#### a. A gift to each member - verse 7

- Grace - God's kindness, mercy, and favor toward us; a benevolent provision we did not earn and do not deserve.

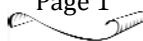
#### b. Gifts to the church - verses 8-11

- The power to give these gifts belongs to Jesus Christ - verses 8-10

Note:



- Apostles - They were first called and sent forth by Jesus Christ to preach to \_\_\_\_\_. After his death, burial, resurrection and ascension into heaven they were sent to establish and to guide the infant \_\_\_\_\_ in ways it needed to \_\_\_\_\_ - Mt. 10:1-6; Lu. 6:13; Acts 2:42; 15:2-6; 16:4; 1 Cor. 12:28; Eph. 2:20.
- Prophets - They were first employed by God throughout the OT and into the NT until the \_\_\_\_\_ was completed. Their job was to guard the infant \_\_\_\_\_ in what it needed to \_\_\_\_\_ - Jer. 7:25-28; Daniel 9:6-10; Hosea 12:10; Amos 3:7; Mt. 5:17; Lu. 24:25-27, 44; Acts 3:18-21; 1 Cor. 12:28-29; 14:29-32; Eph. 2:20; 3:5.



*Note: According to Ephesians 2:20 these gifts are the foundation...you only lay \_\_\_\_\_ foundation and it must be laid \_\_\_\_\_. Their ministry is over in the sense that this gift is no longer filled by people today in this age – 1 Cor. 13:8-10; Phil. 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:1-15*

- Evangelists – Those who preach the gospel to the \_\_\_\_\_, who are actively evangelizing those in their sphere of influence; this includes specially gifted church members and \_\_\_\_\_ who plant churches, etc. – Acts 21:8; 2 Timothy 4:5; Eph. 4:11.

*Note: This gift is still in operation today. It is demonstrated by faithful men who are called to preach the gospel to the \_\_\_\_\_ world. They conduct special revival meetings and hold special services to reach the lost. They are also faithful members of local churches who are especially gifted to reach the lost (our church has been blessed by God with this tremendous \_\_\_\_\_ – they included both men and women).*

- Pastors and teachers – Those men who lead and \_\_\_\_\_ the church, who protect, care for and comfort the \_\_\_\_\_. It is those men who preach and teach what the Bible says – its history, doctrines, and devotional principles. They compare scripture with scripture and teach others to \_\_\_\_\_. THE BOOK – Acts 20:28-35; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:2-3.

- Note:*
- 1) Apostles and prophets – To get things started; the foundation. They set the course for what we needed to do, and what we needed to know.
  - 2) Evangelists – Our ministry to the \_\_\_\_\_, to help the church increase in size.
  - 3) Pastors and teachers – Our ministry to the \_\_\_\_\_, to help our church mature.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ of maturity – Ephesians 4:12-16

a. \_\_\_\_\_ success – verse 12

- For the \_\_\_\_\_ of the saints – 2 Cor. 7:1; 13:11; Col. 4:12; 2 Ti. 3:17
- For the \_\_\_\_\_ of the ministry – 1 Cor. 15:58; John 4:31-34; 17:4, 6, 7-8, 14, 18
- For the \_\_\_\_\_ of the body of Christ – Ro. 14:19; 1 Cor. 14:12, 26; Eph. 4:16

b. Christ likeness – verse 13

- Unto the measure of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the fullness of Christ

c. Doctrinal \_\_\_\_\_ – verse 14

- That we henceforth be \_\_\_\_\_ children, tossed to and fro...

d. Increased love – verses 15-16

- Speaking the \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_
- Increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in \_\_\_\_\_