

Welcome to a New Study on Paul's Minor Epistles

**Sanford church of Christ** 

## Schedule of Books in the Study:

- Galatians
- Ephesians
- Philippians
- Colossians
- 1 Thessalonians

- 2 Thessalonians
- 1 Timothy
- 2 Timothy
- Titus
- Philemon

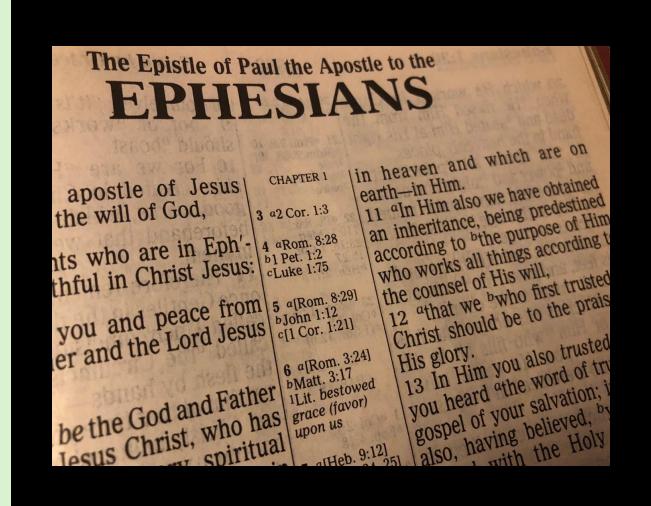


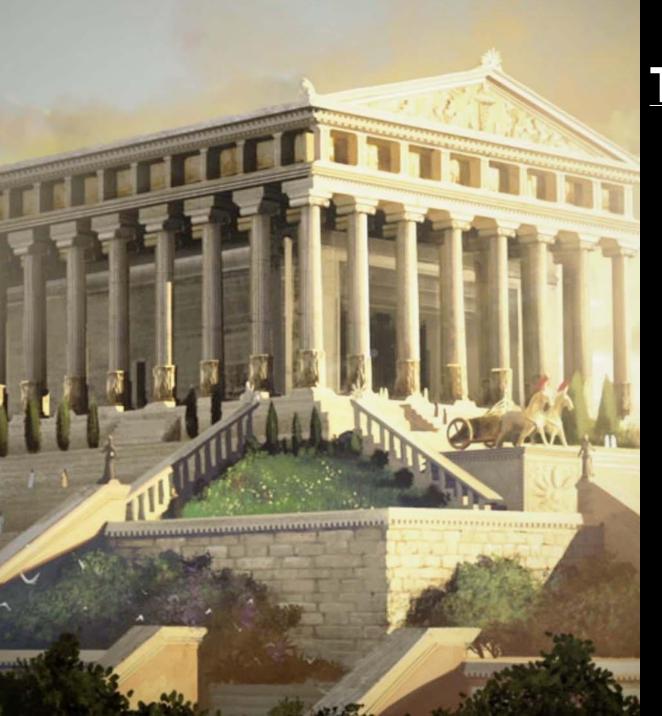
### Ephesians 1:1 – 2 (ESV)

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

# **Background to Ephesus:**

- Roman province of Asia Minor
- It was a dominant city in trade.
- "Free City" home rule with own constitution
- The city of Ephesus was founded about 1040 BC
- It was known for it's textiles, winemaking, and silversmith's guild.
- The city was also the home for the Artemis/Diana temple.





#### The Artemis/Diana Temple

- The temple of Artemis/Diana is known as one of the seven wonders.
- Artemis/Diana was a goddess.
  - Artemis was the Roman name.
  - Diana was the Greek name.
- Artemis/Diana was at times called: lord, savior, queen of the sky.
- At the time, Artemis/Diana was the most worshipped idol in the world.
- It is estimated that the city had 30,000 idols with only about 10,000 citizens.

# **Ephesus in the New Testament:**

- The Ephesian church is spoken about often in Scripture.
  - Paul first comes to Ephesus in Acts 18:19 21 during his second missionary journey.
  - Paul returns to Ephesus in Acts 19 on his third mission journey and spends about three years.
  - While imprisoned in Rome, Paul writes his letter to the Ephesians in about 60 AD.
  - In the early to mid 90s, John wrote the Revelation letter to the Ephesian Christians along with the other six Asia Minor churches.
- By the end of the first century, the church is thought to have been the largest in the world.







# Paul in Ephesus:

- Paul first comes to Ephesus on his 2nd Missionary Journey. (Acts 18:19 – 21)
- To be continued...