

The background of the entire image is a photograph of ancient stone ruins. In the foreground, there are large, rectangular stone blocks arranged in a path. To the right, a high, tiered stone wall rises. In the distance, more ruins and some greenery are visible under a clear sky. A semi-transparent black horizontal band runs across the middle of the image, serving as a background for the text.

Understanding Who I Am

# Ephesians

Becoming Who We Are

**Unified**

# Ephesians 4:1-6



## Setting of Ephesians

- City of Ephesus
- Paul – founding Pastor (from Jail)
- Written to the Church

## Series

- Understanding Who I Am
- Becoming Who We Are

## Today

- plea to practice this new reality



# Ephesians 4:1-6



“I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”

# Ephesians 4:1-6



## 1. Live up to who you are

- personal nature of plea
- 'walk in a manner worthy of the calling'
- a) reminder of the calling Chapters 1-3
  - 1:4 chosen by God before time
  - 1:5 children of God, heirs with Christ
  - 1:7 redeemed by Christ, our debt paid
  - 1:13 sealed with the Holy Spirit



# Ephesians 4:1-6



- 2:4-6 “But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus”
- 2:7 shown immeasurable kindness
- 2:10 “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them”

# Ephesians 4:1-6



b) For those called – Remember 2:13-16

“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup> by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility”



# Ephesians 4:1-6



c) walk in a manner worthy

- represent the position you hold
- choose to represent well, or not at all
- choice is ours – walk in a manner worthy

## 2. Foundations of Christian Unity

- Common Conviction – Jesus (Acts 4:12)
- Common Confidence – Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:15-16)
- Common Care – One Another's Clear (Gal. 5:19ff)

# Ephesians 4:1-6



## 3. Postures that Produce Results

### a) Humility

- essential – Phil 2

### b) Gentleness

- power under control

### c) Patience, bearing one another in Love

- 1 Cor. 13

- Col 3:13 “bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive”



# Ephesians 4:1-6



d) eager to Maintain

- not apathetic but eager

\*Unity of the Spirit

\*Bond of Peace

## 4. Foundational, Positional Truth

□ One Body

□ One Spirit

□ One Hope

□ One Lord

# Ephesians 4:1-6



□ One Faith

□ One Baptism

□ One God and Father

- above all

- in all

- through all



# Ephesians 4:1-6



## So What?

1. Urged by one Called, Credible and Concerned
2. Walk in a Manner Worthy
  - who you are makes a difference
  - choice to make in walking
3. Unity in this family a big deal
  - check your postures
    - Humility, Gentleness, Patience, Bearing one another in love, eager

# Ephesians 4:1-6



4. As you Re-Align your postures remember
- Who we serve
  - What he has done
  - What our unity bears witness to