Sunday, January 31, 2021

Essential Orientation

Ephesians 1:1-2

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Our Calling:
- Believe—Ephesians 1:1-2:10
- Belong—Ephesians 2:11-3:21
- Become—Ephesians 4:1-5:9
- Battle—Ephesians 6:10-23

"The distilled essence of the Christian faith—truth that sings—doctrine set to music." —John McKay

"Our goal in this study is to shift our focus from simply living and managing our lives to knowing (believing) and living out our calling."

[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. —Ephesians 1:1-2

"Salutations are greetings; it's my fancy way of saying hello."
—*Charlotte's Web*, E.B. WHITE

1. Who _____ the book?

…[13]though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, [14]and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. [15]The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. [16]But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display His perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in Him for eternal life. —1 Timothy 1:13-16

"*Apostles* in the biblical sense were those who had been with Jesus and seen the resurrected Christ. They were chosen by God to lay the foundation of the church by preaching, teaching and writing Scripture accompanied by miracles."

2. Where is _____?

[8]And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God. [9]But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus. [10]This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks. —Acts 19:8-10

Notes:

… but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect. —1 Peter 3:15

[23]About that time there arose no little disturbance concerning the Way. [24]For a man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no little business to the craftsmen… [27]And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be counted as nothing, and that she may even be deposed from her magnificence, she whom all Asia and the world worship. —Acts 19:23-24, 27

3. Who is this letter _____?

[2]"I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. [3]I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for My name's sake, and you have not grown weary. [4]But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first." —Revelation 2:2-4

4. What is the _____ of this book?

…[9]making known to us the mystery of His will, according to His purpose, which He set forth in Christ [10]as a plan for the fullness of time, to **unite all things** in Him, things in heaven and things on earth… [22]And He put all things under His feet and gave Him as **head over all things** to the church, [23]which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. —Ephesians 1:9-10, 22-23

"The message of Ephesians is the union of ALL things in Christ and the dominion of Christ over ALL things."

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. —John 14:27

I have said these things to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. —John 16:33

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WARREN
A WAY OF LIFE

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