

## Ephesians 1:1-2

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A helpful overview of the structure and content of Ephesians

### **Additional Introductory Comments**

The question of Ephesus as the specific destination

The curious lack of personal greetings

A fusion of letter and sermon

Relationship to Colossians see 4:16

Audience: Gentile Christians in churches in Asia in the region around Ephesus

Key Theme of core identity in Christ

Identity shapes behavior

Up, In, and Out relationships

### **Today's Text: the Greeting**

*"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**

### **Three Observations in 1:1-2**

*"Saints"*

Holy ones, set apart, not perfect/pious

Set apart for a purpose: **2 Timothy 2:20-21**

A part of the great purpose of uniting all things in Christ: **1:10**

*"In Christ Jesus": 164/36*

Surrounded

Empowered

Identity

*"Grace and peace": 1:2 and 6:23,24*

Law and order: **2 Cor 3:6**

Overcome evil with good: **Romans 12:21**

The floor, the roof

The seed, the flower

Lead with with grace in our IN and OUT

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