

SESSION 1

INTRODUCTION

Authorship and Background

Major Themes- "The letter dwells profoundly upon the Person of Christ Jesus and the Church." RP Martin

1 The Church is the household of God and Christ Jesus is her Cornerstone.

2 God has sovereignly chosen the Church to be the means by which His manifold wisdom is made manifest to the world.

Whatever the Essence of God really is, is revealed to the world by the Church founded upon Jesus Christ, living in Jesus Christ, and directed by the Holy Spirit poured out upon Scripture to reveal Jesus Christ.

3 The unity of the faith

4 The absolute greatness of God's plan of redemption for each individual in Christ

5 The revelation of God's ultimate transcendent purpose to sum up all creation in Christ, to unite all things in Him

6 The call for the Church to be mature in Christ -waiting upon and hoping in the Lord

CHAPTER 1

V 1 What is an apostle?

How does Paul perceive the authority of his office?

What is a saint?

How do we understand the modifier "faithful in Christ Jesus"?

V2 What are the salient points in this greeting and what can we deduce from this regarding the nature of God?

V3 What does it mean “to bless”?

What is Paul speaking of with his reference to “heavenly realms”?

What is the truth about every saint and also the Church?

V4 What doctrine is presented in this verse? See also Rom.29-30

Election (Predestination) is the sovereign outworking of God’s power to effect that which is pleasing to Him in accordance with His righteous and holy will in regards to the salvation of people

What is the essence of the mystery of election?

How do we respond to the doctrine of election/predestination?

Deut 29.29 2 Pet 1.10