EPHESIANS: THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO PAUL AND PRACTICAL

CHRISTIANITY

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Abstract

The church at Ephesus was not unlike so many of our churches today. The culture of the post-

Christian era propagates a humanism and ethic that is counter to the Christian faith. Yet so

many people today are so influenced by such a culture that they see no need for Christ and His

teachings. Paul recognized the difficulty that the Gentiles of Ephesus experienced in attempting

to correlate the Christian faith with the influences of their day. And, while there were few, if any,

pressing issues with the church at Ephesus, nevertheless, wealth, position, sophistication, and

the beginning of the Gnostic effect had taken their toll. Paul's concern, then for the moment was

that the people of God, in that place, would recognize the value of the faith and acknowledge

that God's will is revealed in Jesus Christ and through His bride, the church. Once he has

established a foundation of faith and church unity, he offers holy advice on how to live out the

faith practically in everyday, first-century life.

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