

her•me•neu•tics

HOW TO STUDY YOUR BIBLE

— an eight week course with pastor ben —

Lesson 2 – How to Study a Passage (Part 1)

Assignment

This week the assignment will be to study Ephesians 1:3-14 using the steps we have covered this week. Below you will find the passage spaced out with the verse numbers removed for you to print out and mark up if you would like. As you work through the passage, seek to answer the following questions.

Study the Context

Historical Context

- *What was Paul's history with the church at Ephesus according to Acts 19?* _____

- *Using a commentary, dictionary, or study Bible find when Paul wrote his letter and why.* _____

Cultural Context – adoption in Rome was slightly different than adoption in America. Look up and answer the following questions:

- ***What was the Old Testament background for adoption?*** _____

- ***How did adoption work in Roman times?*** _____

Literary Context

- ***How does this section play into the overall message of Ephesians?*** _____

Observe details – mark up the passage below by observing the following things

- Repeated words or phrases
- Sections that are confusing
- Anything that you hadn't noticed before
- Answer the two big questions:
 - What is Paul talking about, what is his overall subject? _____

- What is Paul saying about what he is talking about, what is his theme? _____

Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.