

Ephesians 1.1–6.24

Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians

Outline — with rhetorical notations

Prescript, 1.1-2

A. **Theological, 1.3–3.21**

(καθίζω: 1.20; συγκαθίζω: 2.6)

1. **Eulogy, 1.3-14**

a. **Call to praise, 1.3-4a**

(εὐλογητός, εὐλογήσας, εὐλογία)

b. **The praise itself, 1.4b-14**

(Note refrain at end of each stanza: εἰς ἔπαινον δόξης τῆς . . . αὐτοῦ)

1) **Stanza one: Father, 1.4b-6**

2) **Stanza two: Son, 1.7-12**

a) **Strophe one, 1.7-8a**

b) **Strophe two, 1.8b-10**

c) **Strophe three, 1.11-12**

3) **Stanza three: Holy Spirit, 1.13-14**

2. **Thanksgiving, 1.15-23**

(Often serves as a rhetorical exordium)

a. **Thanksgiving proper, 1.15-16**

b. **Prayer concern, 1.17-19**

c. **Theological expansion, 1.20-23**

3. **Theme, 2.1-22**

(The inclusion of the Gentiles into the divine plan)

a. **Grace: the ground of our salvation, 2.1-10**

(Inclusio with περιπατέω)

1) **'Then . . . now' pattern, 2.1-7**

2) **Theological summary, 2.8-10**

b. **Peace: the outcome of our salvation, 2.11-22**

(τὰ ἀμώτερα ἐν, ἀμφοτέρους ἐν ἐνὶ σώματι, οἱ ἀμώτεροι ἐν ἐνὶ πνεύματι)

1) **'Then . . . now' pattern, 2.11-18**

2) **Theological summary, 2.19-22**

4. **Prayer**, 3.1-21

a. **Opening**, 3.1

(*Digression on Paul's role in the divine plan*, 3.2-13:

Apostolic call, 3.2-7

Apostolic concern, 3.8-13)

b. **Report**, 3.14-19

c. **Doxology**, 3.20-21

B. **Practical**, 4.1–6.9

(*περιπατέω*: 4.1, 17; 5.2, 8, 15)

1. **Preamble**, 4.1-16

(*ἐν ἀγάπῃ*; vv. 2, 15, 16)

a. **Unity**, 4.1-6

(*Topic sentence in v. 1, brief exhortation in vv. 2-3, theological affirmation in vv. 4-6*)

b. **Diversity**, 4.7-16

(*Ἐνὶ ἐκάστῳ . . . τὸ μέτρον in v. 7, ἐν μέτρῳ ἐνὸς ἐκάστου in v. 16; εἰς μέτρον also in v. 13*)

1) **Fact**, 4.7-10

2) **Function**, 4.11-16

(*εἰς οἰκοδομὴν τοῦ σώματος in v. 12, τοῦ σώματος . . . οἰκοδομὴν in v. 16*)

a) **Purpose**, 4.11-13

b) **Result**, 4.14-16

2. **Theme**, 4.17-24

a. **Admonition**, 4.17-19

(*μηκέτι ὑμᾶς περιπατεῖν, καθὼς καὶ τὰ ἔθνη περιπατεῖ . . .*)

b. **Exhortation**, 4.20-24

1) **Stimulus**, 4.20-21

(*καθὼς ἐστὶν ἀλήθεια ἐν τῷ Ἰησοῦ . . .*)

2) **Focus**, 4.22-24

a) **Put off**, 4.22

(*ἀποθέσθαι*)

b) **Put on**, 4.23-24

(*ἀνανεοῦσθαι. ἐνδύσασθαι*)

3. **Vices and virtues**, 4.25–5.21

(*Διὸ and the specifics of v. 24*)

a. **Section one: Walking in love**, 4.25–5.2

(*Conceptual inclusio: λαλεῖτε ἀλήθειαν . . . περιπατεῖτε ἐν ἀγάπῃ*)

1) **Opening statement**, 4.25-27

(*λαλεῖτε ἀλήθειαν . . . ὀργίζεσθε καὶ μὴ ἀμαρτάνετε*)

2) **Binary appeal**, 4.28-29

(*Two catchwords, ἀγαθός and χρεία, link these two exhortations*)

a) **Works: practical actions**, 4.28

(*μηκέτι prohibition, positive exhortation, and ἵνα motivating clause*)

b) **Words: encouraging speech**, 4.29

(*μη prohibition, positive exhortation, and ἵνα motivating clause*)

(Pause, 4.30)

(... μὴ λυπεῖτε τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον τοῦ θεοῦ...; cf. v. 27 and τῷ διαβόλῳ)

- 3) **Vice/virtue list, 4.31-32**
(Five vices, three virtues)
 - a) **Vices, 4.31**
(πικρία, θυμὸς, ὀργή, κραυγή, βλασφημία)
 - b) **Virtues, 4.32**
(χρηστοί, εὐσπλαγχνοὶ, χαριζόμενοι ἑαυτοῖς)
- 4) **Concluding summary, 5.1-2**
(περιπατεῖτε ἐν ἀγάπῃ, καθὼς καὶ ὁ Χριστὸς ἠγάπησεν ἡμᾶς)
- b. **Section two: Walking in the light, 5.3-14**
(Note τοῦ Χριστοῦ καὶ θεοῦ at the end of v. 5, and ὁ Χριστὸς at the end of v. 14)
 - 1) **Opening prohibition, 5.3-8a**
(Note μηδε in v. 3, μηδεις in v. 6, and μη in v. 7)
 - a) **Stated, 5.3-5**
(These prohibitions control the whole section)
 - i. **Vices/virtue lists, 5.3-4**
(Two vice lists, three vices each with a virtue attached to the latter – followed by a rationale introduced by γαρ)
 - (1) **Deeds/works**
(πορνεία, ἀκαθαρσία, πλεονεξία)
 - (2) **Speech/words**
(αισχροτης, μωρολογία, ευτραπεία – ευχαριστία)
 - ii. **Rationale, 5.5**
(Introduced by γαρ)
 - b) **Extended, 5.6-8a**
(Back-to-back prohibitions, each with their own rationale – note εν κυριω at the end of v. 8a and the ποτε/νυν contrast in v. 8a)
 - 2) **Twofold directive, 5.8b-12**
(Note the one μη in v. 11)
 - a) **Positive command, 5.8b-10**
(ὡς τέκνα φωτὸς περιπατεῖτε... – note τω κυριω at end of v. 10)
 - b) **Negative admonition, 5.11-12**
(μὴ συγκοινωνεῖτε τοῖς ἔργοις τοῖς ἀκάριοις τοῦ σκοτῶντος, μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ ἐλέγχετε – note the other μᾶλλον contrast in v.4 and αισχρον there as well)
 - 3) **Closing statement, 5.13-14**
(δε moves the conversation forward, and ελεγχόμενα connects to v. 11)
 - a) **Maxim, 5.13-14a**
(τὰ πάντα ἐλεγχόμενα ὑπὸ τοῦ φωτὸς φανεροῦνται, πᾶν γὰρ τὸ φανερούμενον φῶς ἐστίν)
 - b) **Scripture, 5.14b**
(διὸ λέγει...)

c. **Section three: Walking in wisdom, 5.15-21**

(Note the Trinitarian endings at the end of vv. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21:

τοῦ κυρίου, ἐν πνεύματι, τῷ κυρίῳ, ἐν ὀνόματι τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ τῷ θεῷ καὶ πατρὶ, Χριστοῦ)

1) **Topic sentence, 5.15a**

(Βλέπετε οὖν ἀκριβῶς πῶς περιπατεῖτε...)

2) **Contrasts, 5.15b-21**

(Three μη... ἀλλὰ contrasts: a synthetic development)

a) **Opening, 5.15b-16**

i. **Prohibition, 5.15b**

(μὴ ὡς ἄσοφοι...)

ii. **Appeal, 5.15c-16**

(ἀλλ ὡς σοφοί...)

b) **Secondary, 5.17**

(διὰ τοῦτο builds on the previous contrast)

i. **Prohibition, 5.17a**

(μὴ γίνεσθε ἄφρονες...)

ii. **Appeal, 5.17b**

(ἀλλὰ συνίετε τί τὸ θέλημα τοῦ κυρίου)

c) **Final, 5.18-21**

i. **Prohibition, 5.18a**

(μὴ μεθύσκεσθε οἴνῳ...)

ii. **Appeal, 5.18b-21**

(ἀλλὰ πληροῦσθε ἐν πνεύματι...; five adverbial participles of result to follow)

(1) **Speaking/singing, 5.19**

(λαλοῦντες... καὶ ᾄδοντες καὶ ψάλλοντες...)

(2) **Gratitude, 5.20**

(εὐχαριστοῦντες...)

(3) **Submission, 5.21**

(ὑποτασσόμενοι...)

4. **Haustafel, 5.22–6.9**

(Subpoints will follow at later date)

Final charge, 6.10-20

(ἴστημι: 6.11, 13, 14)

Postscript, 6.21-24

BcR