God's Amazing Grace: An Introduction to the "Queen of the Epistles" Book of Ephesians

I. Introduction to Ephesians:

- II. A Journey through the Queen of the Epistles
 - 1:1,2; Paul's **Greeting**/Salutation (using his common pattern: Identifies the writer, Identifies the recipient(s), offers words of greeting)
 - 1:3-14; Paul's <u>Psalm</u> of Blessing and Praise (a song or hymn; again using OT pattern; see Psalm 103:1-4)
 - 1:15-23; Paul's $\underline{\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}}$ Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession (for the believers' sanctification and growth in the body)
 - 2:1-3:13; Paul's <u>Instruction</u> (Paul's *torah* section) which includes Deuteronomy's emphasis on "remember," "do not forget."
 - Remember God's grace and mercy in their salvation and the PURPOSE of it (cf. 1 Peter 2:9)
 - <u>Remember</u> (2:11) God's grace to the Gentiles and His PURPOSE through Christ to unite ALL things together in HIM.
 - Know this was revealed to Paul through divine revelation from GOD God's mystery He kept concealed – to the wonder of heavenly beings – but NOW has revealed.
 - 3:14-21; Paul's 2nd Prayer of Intercession and his torah conclusion.
 - 4:1-6:9; Paul's **Exhortations: 3** Key Areas of the Christian Life -
 - (4:1) "The worthy walk" It is living in a manner of thankfulness and love that rightly corresponds to the love, mercy and grace received.
 - 4:1-16; In the CHURCH, the body of Christ
 [Oneness in the Body (cf. Phil. 1:27 2:5); Christ's gifts to the body; For Individual Growth: Spiritual Maturity, and for Growth of the Body]
 - 4:17-5:21; In one's **INDIVIDUAL** life, belonging to Christ [Put **off** the old, Put **on** the NEW]
 - **1**) 4:17, Walk NOT ... as you did; **2**) 5:2; Walk in Love; **3**) 5:8, Walk as children of Light; **4**) 5:15, Walk Wisely ... in an unrighteous world
 - 5:22 (21) -6:9; <u>In Life's Key **RELATIONSHIPS**</u> (Family/Household)
 Husband and Wife; Children and Parents; Servants and Masters
 - 6:10-20; **Stand Firm** Because of <u>Spiritual Warfare</u>, Put on <u>the Whole Armor of God</u> (v.12) "We wrestle NOT against flesh and blood, but ..."