**The Letter of Paul**

**to the Ephesians**

**Block Diagrammed**

One of the pressing needs of any serious student of Scripture is an understanding of the syntax of a given passage. Syntax refers to the interrelationships of paragraphs, sentences, phrases, clauses, and words. The purpose of Block Diagramming is to graphically illustrate the syntax of a passage of Scripture. The Block Diagramming process involves the laying out of a passage of Scripture by indenting subordinate linguistic units while maintaining the word order of the given text or translation. This allows the student of Scripture to determine the Divinely-inspired structure of the passage, its key features, and main points, so as to enhance the study and understanding of God's Word.

Ronald Jay Frasco

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**I. Doctrinal: The Glory of Our Redemption 1:1-3:21**

 **A. Greetings 1:1-2**

 **B. The Song of Praise for Spiritual Blessings 1:3-14**

 1. Election – "No Strings Attached" :3-4

 2. Predestination :5-6

 3. Redemption unto Forgiveness :7-8

 4. Revelation: "Truths and Treasures Untold" :9-10

 5. Inheritance :11-12

 6. Sealed: "Divine Down-Payment" :13-14

 **C. Prayer – "Maximum Power" 1:15-23**

 **D. God's Marvelous Work of Grace 2:1-10**

 1. "The Hideous Carcass of Sin" :1-3

 2. Regeneration in Christ – "God's Power toward Us" :4-10

 **E. The One People of God 2:11-22**

 1. The Godless History of the Gentiles :11-12

 2. The Glorious Ingathering of All Saints :13-16

 3. The Savior's Preaching of Peace :17-18

 4. Christ: The Foundation of God's Household :19-22

 **F. The Apostolic Foundations of Ministry 3:1-20**

 1. Paul's Revelation :1-3

 2. Spiritual Standing of the Gentiles :4-12

 3. Paul's Prayer :13-19

 a. More of the Spirit's Power :16

 b. More of Christ's Love :17-19a

 c. More of God's Character :19b

 4. Doxology :20-21

**II. Practical: The Response for Our Redemption 4:1-6:24**

 **A. The Results of Our Calling in Christ 4:1-24**

 1. Unity in Christ :1-6

 2. Diversity of Gifts in Christ: "Victor's Spoil" :7-13

 a. Generally Stated :7

 b. Prophetically Foretold :8-10

 c. Purposefully Distributed :11-13

 3. "Maturity in Christ" :14-16

 a. Our Former Pattern of Waywardness :14

 b. Our New Pattern in Christ :15-16

 4. A New Walk :17-24

 a. Repudiation of the Old Life :17-19

 b. Putting on the New :20-24

**B. Principles for Walking in Christ 4:25-6:9**

 1. Walking in Truth :25

 2. Walking in Peace :26-27

 3. Walking in Financial Integrity :28

 4. Walking in Graciousness of Speech :29

 5. Walking in the Spirit :30

 6. Walking Unencumbered :31

 7. Walking Graciously with Sinning Brothers :32

 8. Walking as Christ Walked 5:1-2

 9. Walking in Purity :3-5

 10. Walking in Discernment :6

 11. Walking in Light: "This Little Light of Mine" **:7-14**

 a. Life in the Light :7-10

 b. Shining the light :11-14

 12. Walking in Wisdom :15-17

 13. Walking in Sobriety :18-21

 14. Walking with Others **5:22-6:9**

 a. Wives and Husbands :22-24

 b. Husbands and Wives :25-33

 c. Children 6:1-3

 d. Fathers :4

 e. Slaves :5-8

 1). Obedience :5-6

 2). Service :7-8

 f. Masters :9

 **C. The Great Battle: "This Is War!" 6:10-20**

 1. Strength for the Christian Battle :10

 2. Purposeful Protection :11-12

 3. Strategic Protection :13

 4. Strategy for Christian Battle **:14-20**

 a. The Saint's Posture :14-17

 b. The Saint's Prayer :18-20

 1). Vigilant Prayer :18

 2). Opportunistic Prayer :19-20

 **D. Closing Remarks 6:21-24**

 1. Personal remarks :21-22

 2. Blessing :23-24

**I. Doctrinal: The Glory of Our Redemption 1:1-3:21**

 **A. Greetings 1:1-2**

:1 Paul,

 an apostle of Christ Jesus

 by the will of God,

 to the saints

 who are at Ephesus,

 and *who are* faithful in Christ Jesus:

:2 Grace to you and peace

 from God our Father

 and the Lord Jesus Christ.

 **B. The Song of Praise for Spiritual Blessings 1:3-14**

 **1. Election – "No Strings Attached" :3-4**

:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

 who has blessed us

 with every spiritual blessing

 in the heavenly *places* in Christ,

:4 just as He chose us

 in Him

 before the foundation of the world,

 that we should be holy and blameless before Him.

 **2. Predestination :5-6**

 In love

:5 He predestined us

 to adoption as sons

 through Jesus Christ

 to Himself,

 according to the kind intention of His will,

:6 to the praise of the glory of His grace,

 which He freely bestowed on us

 in the Beloved.

 **3. Redemption unto Forgiveness :7-8**

:7 In Him

 we have redemption

 through His blood,

 the forgiveness of our trespasses,

 according to the riches of His grace,

:8 which He lavished upon us.

 **4. Revelation: "Truths and Treasures Untold" :9-10**

 In all wisdom and insight

:9 He made known to us the mystery of His will,

 according to His kind intention

 which He purposed in Him

:10 with a view to an administration

 suitable to the fullness of the times,

 *that is*, the summing up of all things

 in Christ,

 things in the heavens

 and things upon the earth.

 **5. Inheritance :11-12**

 In Him

:11 also we have obtained an inheritance,

 having been predestined

 according to His purpose

 who works all things after the counsel of His will,

:12 to the end that we

 who were the first to hope in Christ

 should be to the praise of His glory.

 **6. Sealed: "Divine Down-Payment" :13-14**

:13 In Him,

 you also,

 after listening to the message of truth,

 the gospel of your salvation --

 having also believed,

 you were sealed

 in Him

 with the Holy Spirit of promise,

:14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance,

 with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession,

 to the praise of His glory.

**C. Prayer – "Maximum Power 1:15-23**

:15 For this reason [**:3**-14?]

 I too,

 having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus

 which *exists* among you,

 and your love for all the saints,

:16 do not cease giving thanks for you,

 while making mention *of you* in my prayers;

:17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ,

 the Father of glory,

 may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation

 in the knowledge of Him.

:18 *I pray that* the eyes of your heart may be enlightened,

 so that you may know

 what is the **hope** of His calling,

what are the **riches** of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

:19 and what is the surpassing greatness of His **power**

 toward us who believe.

*These are* in accordance with the working of the strength of His might

:20 which He brought about

 in Christ,

 when He raised Him from the dead, Psalm 2

and seated Him at His right hand

 in the heavenly *places*,

:21 far above

 all rule

and authority

and power

and dominion,

and every name that is named,

 not only in this age,

 but also in the one to come.

:22 And He put all things in subjection

 under His feet,

and gave Him as head

 over all things

 to the church,

:23 which is His body,

 the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

 **D. God's Marvelous Work of Grace 2:1-10**

 **1. "The Hideous Carcass of Sin" :1-3**

2:1 And you were dead

 in your trespasses and sins,

:2 in which you formerly walked

 according to the course of this world,

 according to the prince of the power of the air,

 of the spirit that is now working

 in the sons of disobedience.

:3 Among them

 we too all formerly lived

 in the lusts of our flesh,

 indulging the desires

 of the flesh

 and of the mind,

 and were

 by nature

 children of wrath,

 even as the rest.

 **2. Regeneration in Christ – "God's Power toward Us" :4-7**

:4 But God,

 being rich in mercy,

 because of His great love with which He loved us,

:5 even when we were dead in our transgressions,

 made us alive together

 with Christ

 by grace you have been saved,

:6 and raised us up

 with Him,

 and seated us

 with Him

 in the heavenly *places*,

 in Christ Jesus,

:7 in order that

 in the ages to come

 He might show the surpassing riches of His grace

 in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

:8 ? For by grace you have been saved

 through faith;

 and that not of yourselves,

 *it is* the gift of God;

:9 not as a result of works,

 that no one should boast.

:10 ? For we are His workmanship,

 created in Christ Jesus for good works,

 which God prepared beforehand,

 that we should **walk** in them.

 **E. The One People of God 2:11-22**

 **1. The Godless History of the Gentiles :11-12**

:11 Therefore remember,

 that

 formerly

 you, the Gentiles in the flesh,

 who are called "Uncircumcision" by the so-called Circumcision,"

 *which is* performed in the flesh by human hands --

:12 *remember* that you were

 at that time

 separate from Christ,

 excluded from the commonwealth of Israel,

 and strangers to the covenants of promise,

 having no hope

 and without God in the world.

 **2. The Glorious Ingathering of All Saints :13-16**

:13 But now

 in Christ Jesus

 you

 who formerly were far off

 have been brought near

 by the blood of Christ.

:14 For He Himself is our peace,

 who made both *groups into* one,

 and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall,

:15 by abolishing

 in His flesh

 the enmity,

 *which is* the Law of commandments *contained* in

 ordinances,

 that

 in Himself

 He might make the two into one new man,

 *thus* establishing peace,

:16 and might reconcile them both

 in one body

 to God

 through the cross,

 by it having put to death the enmity.

 **3. The Savior's Preaching of Peace :17-18**

:17 And He came and preached peace to you who were far away,

 and peace to those who were near;

:18 for through Him we both have our access

 in one Spirit

 to the Father.

 **4. Christ: The Foundation of God's Household :19-22**

:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,

 but you are fellow citizens with the saints,

 and are of God's household,

:20 having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,

 Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*,

:21 in whom the whole building,

 being fitted together

 is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;

:22 in whom you also are being built together

 into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

 **F. The Apostolic Foundations of Ministry 3:1-21**

 **1. Paul's Revelation :1-3**

3:1 For this reason

 I, Paul,

 the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles --

:2 if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace

 which was given to me for you;

:3 that

 by revelation

 there was made known to me the mystery,

 as I wrote before in brief.

**2. Spiritual Standing of the Gentiles :4-12**

:4 And

 by referring to this,

 when you read

 you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,

:5 which

 in other generations

 was not made known to the sons of men,

 as it has now been revealed to His holy

 apostles and prophets in the Spirit;

:6 *to be specific*, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs

 and fellow members of the body,

 and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus

 through the gospel,

:7 of which I was made a minister,

 according to the gift of God's grace

 which was given to me

 according to the working of His power.

:8 To me,

 the very least of all saints,

 this grace was given,

 to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ,

:9 and to bring to light what is the administration of the

 mystery

 which for ages has been hidden in God,

 who created all things;

:10 in order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be

 made known

through the church

to the rulers

and the authorities

in the heavenly *places.*

:11 ? | *This was* in accordance with the eternal purpose

 which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,

:12 in whom we have boldness

 and confident access through faith in Him.

**3. Paul's Prayer :13-19**

:13 Therefore

 I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf,

 for they are your glory.

:14 For this reason,

 I bow my knees before the Father,

:15 from whom every family

 in heaven

 and on earth

 derives its name,

:16 that He would grant you,

 according to the riches of His glory,

 **a. More of the Spirit's Power**

 to be strengthened

 with power

 through His Spirit

 in the inner man;

 **b. More of Christ's Love**

:17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;

*? and* that you,

 being rooted and grounded in love,

:18 may be able to comprehend

 with all the saints

 what is

 the breadth

 and length

 and height

 and depth,

:19 and to know the love of Christ

 which surpasses knowledge,

 **c. More of God's Character**

 that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

 **4. Doxology :20-21**

:20 Now

 to Him

 who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or

 think,

 according to the power that works within us,

:21 to Him *be* the glory

 in the church

 and in Christ Jesus

 to all generations

 forever and ever. Amen.

**II. Practical: The Response for Our Redemption 4:1-6:24**

 **A. Practical Results of Our Calling in Christ 4:1-24**

 **1. Unity in Christ :1-6**

4:1 I,

 therefore,

 the prisoner of the Lord,

 entreat you to **walk** in a manner worthy of the calling

 with which you have been called,

:2 with all humility and gentleness,

 with patience,

 showing forbearance to one another in love,

:3 being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit

 in the bond of peace.

:4 *There is* one body and one Spirit,

 just as also you were called in one hope of your calling;

:5 one Lord,

 one faith,

 one baptism,

:6 one God and Father of all

 who is over all

 and through all

 and in all.

 **2. Diversity of Gifts in Christ :7-13**

 **a. Generally Stated**

:7 But

 to each one of us

 grace was given

 according to the measure of Christ's gift.

 **b. Prophetically Foretold**

:8 Therefore it says,

 "When He ascended on high,

 He led captive a host of captives,

 And He gave gifts to men."

:9 Now this *expression,* "He ascended,"

 what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower

 parts of the earth?

:10 He who descended is Himself also He who ascended

 far above all the heavens,

 that He might fill all things.

 **c. Purposefully Distributed**

:11 And He gave

 some *as* apostles,

 and some *as* prophets,

 and some *as* evangelists,

 and some *as* pastors and teachers,

:12 for the equipping of the saints

 for the work of service,

 to the building up of the body of Christ;

:13 until we all attain

 to the unity of the faith,

 and of the knowledge of the Son of God,

 to a mature man,

 to the measure of the stature

 which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

:14 As a result [that], we are no longer to be children,

 tossed here and there by waves,

 and carried about

 by every wind of doctrine,

 by the trickery of men,

 by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

:15 but

 speaking the truth in love,

 we are to grow up

 in all *aspects*

into Him,

 who is the head, *even* Christ,

:16 from whom the whole body,

 being fitted and held together

 by that which every joint supplies,

according to the proper working of each individual part,

 causes the growth of the body

 for the building up of itself in love.

 **3. A New Walk :17-24**

 **a. Repudiation of the Old Life**

:17 This I say therefore,

 and affirm together with the Lord,

 that you **walk** no longer just as the Gentiles also **walk**,

 in the futility of their mind,

:18 being darkened in their understanding,

 excluded from the life of God,

 because of the ignorance that is in them,

 because of the hardness of their heart;

:19 and they,

 having become callous,

 have given themselves over to sensuality,

 for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

 **b. Putting on the New**

:20 But you did not learn Christ in this way,

:21 if indeed you have heard Him

 and have been taught in Him,

 just as truth is in Jesus,

:22 that,

 in reference to your former manner of life,

 you lay aside the old self,

 which is being corrupted

 in accordance with the lusts of deceit,

:23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

:24 and put on the new self,

 which

 in *the likeness of* God

 has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

 **B. Principles for Walking in Christ 4:25-6:9**

 **1. Walking in Truth :25**

:25 Therefore,

 laying aside falsehood,

 speak truth, each one *of you,* with his neighbor,

 for we are members of one another.

 **2. Walking in Peace :26-27**

:26 Be angry,

 and *yet* do not sin;

 do not let the sun go down on your anger,

:27 and do not give the devil an opportunity.

**3. Walking in Financial Integrity :28**

:28 Let him who steals steal no longer;

 but rather let him labor,

 performing with his own hands what is good,

 in order that he may have *something* to share

 with him who has need.

**4. Walking in Graciousness of Speech :29**

:29 Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth,

 but only such *a word* as is good for edification

 according to the need *of the moment,*

that it may give grace to those who hear.

**5. Walking in the Spirit :30**

:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God,

 by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

 **6. Walking Unencumbered :31**

:31 Let all

 bitterness

 and wrath

 and anger

 and clamor

 and slander

 be put away from you,

 along with all malice.

 **7. Walking Graciously with Sinning Brothers :32**

:32 And be kind to one another,

 tender-hearted,

 forgiving each other,

 just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

 **8. Walking as Christ Walked 5:1-2**

5:1 Therefore be imitators of God,

 as beloved children;

:2 and **walk** in love,

 just as Christ also loved you,

 and gave Himself up for us,

 an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

**9. Walking in Purity :3-5**

:3 But do not let

 immorality

 or any impurity

 or greed even be named among you,

 as is proper among saints;

:4 and *there must be no*

filthiness

 and silly talk,

 or coarse jesting,

 which are not fitting,

 but rather giving of thanks.

:5 For this you know with certainty,

 that no

 immoral

 or impure person

 or covetous man,

 who is an idolater,

 has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

 **10. Walking in Discernment :6**

:6 Let no one deceive you with empty words,

 for

 because of these things

 the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

 **11. Walking in Light :7-14**

 **a. Life in the Light**

:7 Therefore do not be partakers with them;

:8 for you were formerly darkness,

 but now you are light in the Lord;

 **walk** as children of light

:9 for the fruit of the light *consists* in all

 goodness

 and righteousness

 and truth,

:10 trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

**b. Shining the light**

:11 And do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness,

 but instead even expose them;

:12 for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things

 which are done by them in secret.

:13 But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light,

 for everything that becomes visible is light.

:14 For this reason it says,

 "Awake, sleeper, And arise from the dead,

 And Christ will shine on you."

 **12. Walking in wisdom :15-17**

:15 Therefore

 be careful how you **walk**,

 not as unwise men,

 but as wise,

:16 making the most of your time,

 because the days are evil.

:17 So then do not be foolish,

 but understand what the will of the Lord is.

 **13. Walking in the Spirit :18-21**

:18 And do not get drunk with wine,

 for that is dissipation,

 but be filled with the Spirit,

:19 speaking to one another in

 psalms

 and hymns

 and spiritual songs,

 singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

:20 always giving thanks

 for all things

 in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

 to God, even the Father;

:21 and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

**14. Walking with Others 5:22-6:9**

 **a. Wives and Husbands :22-24**

:22 Wives,

 *be subject* to your own husbands,

 as to the Lord.

:23 For the husband is the head of the wife,

 as Christ also is the head of the church,

 He Himself *being* the Savior of the body.

:24 But

 as the church is subject to Christ,

 so also the wives *ought to be* to their husbands in everything.

 **b. Husbands and Wives :25-33**

:25 Husbands, love your wives,

 just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her;

:26 that He might sanctify her,

 having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

:27 ? | that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory,

 having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing;

 but that she should be holy and blameless.

:28 So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies.

 He who loves his own wife loves himself;

:29 for no one ever hated his own flesh,

 but nourishes and cherishes it,

 just as Christ also *does* the church,

:30 because we are members of His body.

:31 ? For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother,

 and shall cleave to his wife;

 and the two shall become one flesh.

:32 This mystery is great;

 but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

:33 Nevertheless

 let each individual among you also love his own wife

 even as himself;

 and *let* the wife *see to it* that she respect her husband.

 **c. Children 6:1-3**

6:1 Children,

 obey your parents in the Lord,

 for this is right.

:2 Honor your father and mother

 which is the first commandment with a promise,

:3 that it may be well with you,

 and that you may live long on the earth.

 **d. Fathers :4**

:4 And, fathers,

 do not provoke your children to anger;

 but bring them up

 in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

 **e. Slaves :5-8**

 **1). Obedience**

:5 Slaves,

 be obedient to those who are your masters

 according to the flesh,

 with fear and trembling,

 in the sincerity of your heart,

 as to Christ;

:6 not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers,

 but as slaves of Christ,

 doing the will of God from the heart.

 **2). Service**

:7 With good will

 render service,

 as to the Lord,

 and not to men,

:8 knowing that whatever good thing each one does,

 this he will receive back from the Lord,

 whether slave or free.

**f. Masters :9**

:9 And, masters,

 do the same things to them,

 and give up threatening,

 knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven,

 and there is no partiality with Him.

 **C. The Great Battle: "This Is War!" 6:10-20**

 **1. Inner Protection the Christian Battle :10**

:10 Finally,

 be strong

 in the Lord,

 and in the strength of His might.

 **2. Purposeful Protection :11-12**

:11 Put on the full armor of God,

 that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood,

 but

against the rulers,

against the powers,

against the world forces of this darkness,

against the spiritual forces of wickedness

 in the heavenly places.

 **3. Strategic Protection :13**

:13 Therefore,

 take up the full armor of God,

 that you may be able to resist in the evil day,

 and

 having done everything,

 to stand firm.

**4. Strategy for Christian Battle :14-20**

 **a. The Saint's Posture :14-17**

:14 Stand firm therefore,

 having girded your loins with truth,

 and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

:15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of

 peace;

:16 in addition to all,

 taking up the shield of faith

with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil one.

:17 And take the helmet of salvation,

 and the sword of the Spirit,

 which is the word of God.

 **b. The Saint's Prayer :18-20**

 **1). Vigilant Prayer**

:18 With all prayer

 and petition

 pray

 at all times

 in the Spirit,

 and

 with this in view,

 be on the alert

 with all perseverance

 and petition for all the saints,

 **2). Opportunistic Prayer**

:19 and pray on my behalf,

 that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth,

 to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,

:20 for which I am an ambassador in chains;

 that in proclaiming it [gospel] I may speak boldly,

 as I ought to speak.

**D. Closing Remarks 6:21-24**

 **1. Personal remarks :21-22**

:21 But that you also may know about my circumstances,

 how I am doing,

 Tychicus,

 the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord,

 will make everything known to you.

:22 And I have sent him to you for this very purpose,

 so that you may know about us,

 and that he may comfort your hearts.

 **2. Blessing :23-24**

:23 Peace be to the brethren,

 and love with faith,

 from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

:24 Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ

 with a love incorruptible.