

Faithful – In Christ

Ephesians “ἐν Χριστῷ” Occurrences:

- [1:1](#) faithful in Christ
- [1:3](#) blessed in Christ
- [2:6](#) raised up and seated in Christ
- [2:7](#) riches in Christ
- [2:10](#) created in Christ
- [2:13](#) brought near in Christ
- [3:6](#) partakers of the promise in Christ
- [3:21](#) glory in Christ
- [4:32](#) forgiven in Christ

ἐν Χριστῷ - in Christ

1. Starts with a POSITION ([Eph. 2](#))
2. Continues in a RELATIONSHIP ([2 Peter 3:18](#))
3. Culminates into ETERNITY ([Jn. 3:36](#))

Why is Growing Spiritually Important?

- Most importantly: **God desires and mandates it!**
- The physical depends on the spiritual ([1 Cor. 11:30](#))
- The spiritual is exponentially more important than the physical. ([2 Cor. 4:18](#))
- Blessings and happiness are a result of growing
 - discipline and unhappiness from ignoring
- The spiritual guides the physical ([Rom 8:13-14](#))
- Carnality leads to the deterioration of a client nation ([Hos. 4:6](#))
- Scar tissue of the soul means discipline, loss of blessing and for some believers, the sin unto death
- Our time is limited ([Eph. 5:16](#))

Faithful – In Christ (Continued)

Philippians 3:7-9

- ζημία zēmia – *damage, disadvantage, loss, penalty, fine*

Ephesians 1:1

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who

Παῦλος ἀπόστολος Χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ διὰ θελήματος θεοῦ τοῖς ἀγίοις τοῖς

are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus

οἷσιν [ἐν Ἐφέσῳ] καὶ πιστοῖς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ

(M.D.P. of πιστός)

What is Faith?

Heb. 11:1 – *Now faith is the assurance (1. ὑπόστασις) of things hoped for, (2. ἐλπίζω) the conviction (3. ἔλεγχος) of things not seen.*

1. **ὑπόστασις** hypostasis (Noun, fem., nom., sing.)
 - Assurance, reality
2. **ἐλπίζω** elpizō (Verb, pres., pass., ptcp., neut., gen., plur.)
 - To anticipate, hope, confidently expect, confidently trust
3. **ἔλεγχος** elegchos (Noun, masc., nom., sing.)
 - proof, convicting evidence

Faithful – In Christ (Continued)

ἐλπίζω (elpizō)

- Passive Voice
 - We receive (not produce)
 - The power behind our anticipation and confidence originate in the object of our faith
- Present Tense
 - power or source which provides for and sustains our confident expectation is continuous
- Faith is *non-meritorious*
- The emphasis should never be on the believer, but on the object
- Faith is not based on the circumstances (what we see)
- 1 Corinthians 10:13 (ὑποφέρω hupopherō)