

## Repeated Words, Themes, and Ideas

1. Jesus Christ, Paul commands children who are united to Christ—"in the Lord"—to obey their parents because that's how children who are in Christ are supposed to behave, 6:1. Paul commands slaves to obey their human masters with the same respect and sincerity they would Christ, not like those who make an impression only when the master's around, but like slaves of Christ instead of slaves of men, who willingly and from their heart do what God wants, knowing that the Lord will reward them accordingly whether they're slaves or not, 6:5-8. Paul commands masters to do likewise, i.e., they're to give up threatening and treat their slaves properly, knowing that their Master's in heaven and He doesn't show favoritism, 6:9. Paul commands the Ephesians to allow themselves to be strengthened by their position in Christ, from the power of His might, 6:10. Paul commands the Ephesians to clothe themselves with the whole armor of God (Christ) so that they can stand against the Devil's scheming, 6:11. The Ephesians need to take up the whole armor of God (Christ) so they will be able to withstand and stand in the evil day; they therefore need to put on truth, righteousness, Gospel, faith which will quench all of Satan's fiery arrows, salvation, the Word of God, as they pray constantly and diligently by means of Christ's Spirit for their needs and the needs of others, 6:13-18. Paul sends peace and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ to the Ephesians, 6:23. Paul wishes grace upon all who sincerely love our Lord Jesus Christ, 6:24 (other places this appears: 1:1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11-12, 13, 15, 17, 20-21, 22-23; 2:5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19-20, 21, 22; 3:1, 3-4, 6, 8, 9, 9-11, 12, 14, 17, 17-19, 21; 4:1, 5, 7, 8-10, 11, 12, 12-16, 17, 17-20, 21, 32; 5:2, 5, 8, 10, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25-27, 29, 30, 32).
2. In Christ / in Him, Paul urges children who are in the Lord—permanently united to Christ—to obey their parents because it's the right thing to do, 6:1. Paul commands fathers to not anger their children but to raise them with the training and admonition of the Lord, 6:4. Since the Ephesians permanently dwell in Christ, Paul commands them to be strengthened by the Lord's strength and power, 6:10. Paul commands the Ephesians to clothe themselves with God's [Christ's] full armor: truth, righteousness, Gospel of peace, faith, salvation, and the Word of God, as they remain in constant conversation with God through His Spirit so that they can withstand and stand against Satan's schemes, 6:11-18. Tychicus is a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord [i.e., he functions out of his permanent position in Christ], 6:21 (other places this appears: 1:1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13; 2:5, 6, 7, 10, 13, 15, 16, 21, 22; 3:6, 9-11, 12, 16-19; 4:1-32, 32).
3. Because we are united forever with Jesus, everything He is, we are; everything He has we have, because fathers are in Christ, they can raise their children in the training and admonition of the Lord, 6:4. Because the Ephesians are one with Christ, they can be strengthened by their position in Him and by the power of His might, 6:10. Since the Ephesians are united with Christ, they can withstand and stand against Satan's schemes because they have access to God's complete armor: truth, righteousness, the Gospel of peace, faith, salvation, the Word of God, and constant communication with God through His Spirit, 6:11, 13-18 (other places this appears: 1:5, 7, 10, 21-22, 11, 19-22; 2:5-6, 10, 18, 19, 21-22; 3:6, 12, 14, 16, 17-19).
4. Sin, children who are united to Christ must not sin against their parents by disobeying them. If they disobey, their life will be short and miserable, 6:1-3. Fathers must not sin against their children by provoking them to anger, 6:4 (other places this appears: 1:7; 2:2, 2, 3, 5; 4:17-19, 26-31; 5:3).

5. Darkness vs. Light, living in Christ's light means obeying your parents, which will bring a blessing upon you: a good and long life. Living in Satan's darkness means disobeying your parents and it will bring a curse upon you: a short and difficult life, 6:1-3. Living in Christ's light means raising your children with His wisdom and advice on how to live life well. Living in Satan's darkness means provoking your children to anger, 6:4. Living in Christ's light means that you obey your human masters as you would Christ, not as a pretense but sincerely, from your heart, knowing that the Lord will reward your good service regardless of your status. Living in Satan's darkness means you work only when your master is looking; you don't mean it nor care about it, neither do you care about the Lord's opinion or desire for your life, 6:5-8. Living in Christ's light means you treat your slaves properly, you don't threaten them. Living in Satan's darkness means you mistreat your slaves, including threatening them which shows disregard for your impartial Master in heaven, 6:9 (other places this appears: 2:1-10, 11-22; 4:1-16, 17-32; 5:8-14, 18-21).