



# EQUIPPED TO SERVE

## LESSONS FROM EPHESUS

### EQUIPPED TO SERVE | “OVERVIEW OF LESSONS FROM EPHESUS”

April 12, 2026

#### Revelation 1:1-7 (NIV)

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. <sup>2</sup> I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. <sup>3</sup> You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.

<sup>4</sup> Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the

love you had at first. <sup>5</sup> Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. <sup>6</sup> But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

<sup>7</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

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#### Notes:

#### Lessons From Ephesus

- Overflowing Praise
- Overwhelming Truth
- Organic in Christ
- One Humanity
- Outstanding Imagination
- Occupational Maturity
- Opportunities for Holiness
- Orchestration
- Onward to Jerusalem
- Overview of Lessons from Ephesus

## **Listening Back**

“The Church of Christ, in its divine origin, in its present power for good, and in its eternal destiny, far surpasses the dignity and significance of any other society, organization, or movement known to man. One who holds a different view should read the arresting paragraphs of the following letter. He may come to realize that, with all its obvious imperfections, the Church is proclaiming and establishing those principles of personal purity, of social justice, and of race relationship upon which the hopes of the world must rest. The primary message of the letter, however, is addressed to the members of the Christian brotherhood. It awakens in their hearts a hymn of praise for the unmerited mercies of God. It summons them to more devoted endeavor for the welfare of society, for the defense of the family, for the unity and growth of the Church. It deepens their conviction that the gospel is designed for no one race or nation but as a message of life and of love for all the peoples of the earth. It inspires them with a more joyful confidence in the inexhaustible riches of redeeming graces revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord.”

— *Charles R. Erdman*, “The Epistle of Paul to the Ephesians”

## **Living Now**

## **Looking Forward**