

## 2018 08 19 Scripture Reading

Therefore I Paul, prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called—with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love—being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all Who is over all and through all and in all.

But to each one of us, grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Therefore it says, "When He ascended on high, He led captive a host of captives, and He gave gifts to all." (Now this expression, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so He might fill all things.)

He gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain the unity of the faith, and the knowledge of the Son of God, to be mature, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

As a result, 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 people, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him Who is the Head, even Christ, from Whom the whole body—being fitted and held together by what 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. **Ephesians 4:1-16**