

*Ignatius of Antioch*



EPISTLES OF  
ST. IGNATIUS

**Ignatius of Antioch**

# **Epistles of Ignatius**

**Seven Letters: Ephesians, Magnesians, Trallians,  
Romans, Philadelphians, Smyrnaeans & Polycarp**

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# The Epistle to the Ephesians

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# THE EPISTLE OF IGNATIUS TO THE EPHESIANS.

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*\*The References to the following seven Epistles will be found at the end of the Epistle to Polycarp.*

## CHAP. I.

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<sup>1</sup> *Ignatius commends the brethren for sending Onesimus and other members of the church to him. 8 Exhorts them to unity, 13 by a due subjection to their bishop.*

IGNATIUS, who is also called Theophorus, *to the church which is at Ephesus in Asia; most deservedly happy: being blessed through the greatness and fullness <sup>1</sup>of God the Father, and predestinated before the world began; that it should be always unto an enduring and unchangeable glory; united and chosen through his true passion, according to the will of the Father, and Jesus Christ our God; all happiness, by Jesus Christ, and his undefiled grace.*

<sup>2</sup> I have heard of your name much beloved in God; which ye have very justly attained by a habit of righteousness, according to the faith and love which is in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

<sup>3</sup> How that being followers of God, and stirring up yourselves by the blood of Christ ye have perfectly

accomplished the work that was con-natural unto you.

<sup>4</sup> For hearing that I came bound from Syria, for the common name and hope, trusting through your prayers to fight with beasts at home; so that by suffering I may become indeed the disciple of him who gave himself to God, an offering and sacrifice for us; ye hastened to see me. I received, therefore, in the name of God, your whole multitude in Onesimus;

<sup>5</sup> Who by: inexpressible love is ours, but according to the flesh is our bishop; whom I beseech you, pray Jesus Christ, to love: and that you would all strive to be like unto him. And blessed be God, who has granted unto you, who are so worthy of him, to enjoy such an excellent bishop.

<sup>6</sup> For what concerns my fellow servant Burrhus, and your most blessed deacon in things pertaining to God; I entreat you that he may tarry longer, both for yours, and your bishop's honour.

<sup>7</sup> And Crocus also worthy of both our God and you, whom I have received as the pattern of your love, has in all things refreshed me, as the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ shall also refresh him; together with Onesimus, and Burrhus, and Euplus, and Fronto, in whom I have, as to your charity, seen all of you, And may always, have joy of you, if I shall be worthy of it.

<sup>8</sup> It is therefore fitting that you should by all means glorify Jesus Christ, who hath glorified you that by a uniform obedience ye may be perfectly joined together in the same

mind, and in the same judgment; and may all speak the same things concerning everything:

<sup>9</sup> And that being, subject to your bishop, and the presbytery, ye may be wholly and thoroughly sanctified.

<sup>10</sup> These things I prescribe to you, not as if I were somebody extraordinary: for though I am bound for his name, I am not yet perfect in Christ Jesus. But now I begin to learn, and I speak to you as fellow disciples together with me.

<sup>11</sup> For I ought to have been stirred up by you, in faith: in admonition; in patience; in long-suffering; but forasmuch as charity suffers me not to be silent towards you, I have first taken upon me to exhort you, that ye would all run together, according to the will of God.

<sup>12</sup> For even Jesus Christ, our inseparable life, is sent by the will of the Father; as the bishops, appointed unto the utmost bounds of the earth, are by the will of Jesus Christ.

<sup>13</sup> Wherefore it will become you to run together according to the will of your bishop, as also ye do,

<sup>14</sup> For your famous presbytery, worthy of God, is fitted as exactly to the bishop, as the strings are to the harp.

<sup>15</sup> Therefore in your concord and agreeing charity, Jesus Christ is sung; and every single person among you makes up the chorus:

<sup>16</sup> That so being all consonant in love, and taking up the song of God, ye may in a perfect unity with one voice, sing