Ephesians 1:1-2 (ESV)  
Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Author
   - Paul


     - His charge -

   Ephesians 3:8 (ESV) To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

     - “An apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God...”

     - Writing now as “an ambassador in chains”...

2. The Recipients
   - “The saints who are in Ephesus...”

   - “And are faithful in Christ Jesus...”

   - “in Christ” occurs 15 times in this epistle; in Paul’s 13 epistles it occurs some 164 times.

   - Notice the doxology in Ephesians1:1-14, “in Christ” is used 11 times.

3. The Greeting

   Ephesians 1:2 (ESV)  Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

   - Grace (charis)

     - It appears 12 times in this letter
       - To the praise of His grace (1:6-8a)
       - Saved by His grace (2:4-9)
       - Gifted by His grace (4:7)
       - Speak words of grace (4:29)
• “Peace” (*Shalom*)
  - Christ is our peace *(2:14)*
  - Jew and Gentile *(2:17)*
  - “bond of peace” *(4:3)*
  - Gospel of Peace *(6:15)*

• “Grace and Peace from God our Father” *(1:17; 4:6)*

4. Praise for Spiritual Blessing

**Ephesians 1:3 (ESV)** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

- Our riches are "in the heavenly places"
- Our riches are "in Christ"

5. Outline of Ephesians

- Doctrine: Who we are in Christ! *(Chapters 1-3)*
- Duty: How we are to live now! *(Chapters 4-6)*