

God's New People

Wednesday, February 19, 2020 — Ephesians Series—MS Msg 2 — Pastor Jason Hill

Ephesians 1:3-14

English Standard Version (ESV)

3 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, **4** even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love **5** he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, **6** to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. **7** In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, **8** which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight **9** making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ **10** as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, **12** so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. **13** In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, **14** who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

REVIEW:

- 1) Paul wrote to the Ephesians, whom he visited on the third missionary journey, from jail in Rome.
- 2) Ephesians is important because Paul summarizes what God has done through Christ and what we must be and do because of God's work. (Christian Faith and Christian Life)
- 3) Ephesus was a city much like our area, a commercial port and banking center, with much false worship.

This long sentence in the original points out what part each member of the Trinity plays in our salvation.

The blessings spoken about happen at the moment we trust in Christ.
These blessings are described in verses 3 –14.

Salvation affects all of life:

We have been saved—past—through what God the Father and the Son have done

We are being saved—present—through the continued work of God

We will be saved—future—through what God will do

1) We have been given riches and gifts through the work of the Father. (v 3-6)

God chooses believers to give them gifts in heaven because of our new position in Christ.
God chooses believers before the beginning of the world.

The believer is chosen from all humans to be holy before Him.

The believer is set apart to be in a special relationship as a child through Christ.

Our choosing is because of His decision not because of us.

Our choosing should cause us to want to praise Him more.

Our choosing is provided for because of what Christ has done.

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11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, **12** so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. **13** In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, **14** who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

2) We have been giving riches and gifts through the work of the Son. (v 7-10)

Christ redeems (sets us free by the paying of a price) us.

How? Christ does this by dying on the cross for our sins.

What did His redemption do? Christ's payment forgives us of our trespasses.

What was the extent? Christ's death was a gift of God's grace. He gave us more than we could have ever thought.

Why? It was the plan from the beginning.

For what purpose? To bring all things under Christ.

3) We currently have riches and gifts through the work of the Son and Spirit. (v 11-13)

Christ gives us an inheritance. (Something that now belongs to us)

It was given to us because it was part of His plan from the beginning.

It was given to us for us to praise Jesus.

The Holy Spirit puts His stamp of approval on you.

4) We will have riches and gifts through the work of the Spirit. (v 14)

The gift of the Spirit guarantees that you will obtain all these gifts to the end of all time.

The gift of the Spirit points us back to God's gracious gift and His praiseworthiness.

Small Group Questions:

- 1) How do these verses move you to want to praise God?**
- 2) How do these verses help you to understand the relationship between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?**
- 3) How would you explain to someone else what Christ did to accomplish your redeeming?**
- 4) Why should these verses give us hope?**
- 5) Seek to memorize Ephesians 2:8-10**

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God chooses believers before the _____ of the world.

The believer is chosen from _____ to be holy before Him.

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