

Ephesians

Ephesians 1

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ
Jesus:

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.

- Paul is an apostle
- This was God's will
- Paul had been chosen by God
- Written to the faithful church in Ephesus

Spiritual Blessings in Christ

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.

- God is blessed (by His own holiness, and our worship)
- We are blessed by God
- We are blessed through Christ
- With what?
- EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING. What are they?
- Fruit of the Spirit: Galatians 5:22

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

1. Love

2. Joy

3. Peace

4. Patience

5. Kindness

6. Goodness

7. Faithfulness

8. Gentleness

9. Self-control

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.

- We have been predestined
- We have been adopted as sons and daughters
- Through the blood of Jesus
- This action brings God praise

7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,

- Because of Jesus, we have been redeemed.
- We are redeemed through His blood.
- Through redemption, forgiveness is possible.
- This comes from God's wealth. Wealth of what?
- 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.

- God has been extremely generous with His Grace!
- Mysteries are made known. What mysteries?
- An inside look at Grace. How it feels. What it does. How it empowers us. Frees us.
- This is a part of God's plan. To unite us as a family

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,

- Jesus has shared with us His inheritance
- This was predestined. We did not determine this. God did.
- God's will is always done. What does counsel mean?
- Trinity

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.

- We hope in Christ. What does it mean to hope?
- Our actions in Grace and the gospel are praise to God.
- We hear, we believe, we are sealed with Holy Spirit.
- Holy Spirit is our guaranteed ticket. Marker. Proof of receipt.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

15 For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him,

- Because of our kinship
- Paul is thankful for others knowing Jesus like he does.
- Paul prays for other parts of the church constantly.
What does he pray?
- For spiritual wisdom, and new revelation of God.
Aha moments!

18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might

- We can SEE with our hearts!
- We can recognize real HOPE
- We can understand how wealthy we are!
- We can comprehend God's supreme power.
Unstoppable.

20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

- God the Father accomplished this through God the Son
- Brought Jesus back from the dead. How?
He has authority over death.
- He seated Jesus at His right hand.
- He made His name above every name for all time.

22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

- All things under authority of King Jesus
- The church is Christ's body