

“The Believer’s Blessing in the Redemptive Work of the True God”

Eph. 1:3-14

Knowing Him and Making Him Known

In Paul’s opening statement there is an avalanche of descriptive words: words that unveil all that are theirs “in Christ Jesus.” Verses three through fourteen are one sentence in Greek. There are over 200 words in this one sentence. This section is often called a “doxology” because it recites what God has done and is an expression of worship to honor him. It appears as a song.

The whole theme is centered on our redemption/salvation. There are three primary reasons as to why the believer should praise the Lord.

I. Chosen by the Father (1:4-6)

A. The blessing of election (v. 4 [He picked us])

1. The fact of God’s choice
2. The bounty of God’s choice (v. 3)
3. The purpose of God’s choice
 - i. To be holy
 - ii. To be without blame

B. The blessing of adoption (v. 5 [He predestinated us])

On what basis did God predetermine to love us and adopt us into His family? “The good pleasure of His will”. Is there any room for boasting on behalf of the adopted? No, it is all of God.

C. The blessing of grace (v. 6 [He was pleased with us])

Grace is God’s response to man’s need. God’s dealings with us are on a grace basis - any other basis would lead to our damnation.

Continued on the other side...

II. Redeemed by the Son (vv. 7-12)

A. The blessing of redemption (vv. 7, 8)

1. The means = "through His blood"
2. The result = "forgiveness of sins"
3. The basis = "according to the riches of His grace"

"In proportion to God's grace we have forgiveness."

B. The blessing of revelation (vv. 9, 10)

All of history is the outworking of God's purpose. There are no random acts. All of God's actions are orchestrated in such a way as to bring Him the greatest glory and for the recipients good. Friend, we know what God is doing in the world. We know to what all of creation is rushing toward. It is all about Him.

C. The blessing of an inheritance (vv. 11, 12)

1. It was predetermined. / "being predestinated"
2. It was purposeful. / "according to the purpose of Him"
3. It was planned. / "Him who worked all things after the counsel of His own will"

All of creation is rushing toward the magnification of His name in all the earth.

III. Sealed by the Spirit (vv. 13, 14)

A. The blessing of being sealed (v. 13)

What guarantee do we have that it will come to pass? (vv. 13, 14) "The sealing of the Holy Spirit"

B. The blessing of being secured (v. 14)

What is verse 14 telling us about the whole process [salvation]? That it is certain. We are eternally secure.