

Book of Ephesians Study Outline Notes #1
Legacy Bible Church Sunday School
Ephesians 1:3-14
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The Blessedness of God our Father

Eph 1:3-14 (1-2 are introduction which is why they are not included in the outline)

I. He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places (v3)

A. *We were chosen before the foundation of the world with the purpose of being holy and blameless (v4)*

II. He has predestined us to adoption as sons (v5)

A. *Done in His love (the motive) (v4b)*

B. *Through Jesus Christ to Himself (v5)*

C. *According to the kind intention of His will (how He did it) (v5b)*

D. *To the praise of the glory of His grace (why He did it) (v6)*

1. He freely entitles it to us (v6b)

III. We have redemption through the blood of Jesus (v7)

a. This means we have forgiveness of our trespasses (sins) (v7b)

A. *According to the riches of His grace (by the standard measure) (7c)*

1. The standard of that measure of grace? He infinitely lavishes it on us (v8)

IV. He makes known to us the mystery of His will (v9)

a. In all wisdom and insight (the how...how He did this) (v8b)

A. *According to His kind intention that was purposed in Christ (v9b)*

1. The administration of fullness (v10)

a. That is, to fill all things (in heaven and earth) with/in Christ Himself (v10b)

V. We have obtained an inheritance (v11)

A. *in Christ (alone) (v10c)*

B. *a result of having been predestined (v11b)*

1. The predestination was according to His purpose (11b)

--He works all things after the counsel of His will (11c)

(in other words, He does what He deems necessary)

--He is working to make us to be the praise of His glory (v12)

VI. We are sealed with the Holy Spirit of Promise (v13)

A. *The Spirit is our pledge (proof) of our inheritance in Christ (v14)*

1. We received Him immediately after listening and believing the message of the truth (v13a)

a. The message of the truth is the gospel of salvation (13a)

- b. The good news is in Christ alone (v13a)
 - c. One must believe it in order for it to take effect (13b)
(notice no other factor is necessary for receiving the Holy Spirit)
- B. This makes us God's possessions through redemption for His glory (14)*

Conclusion: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for all that He's blessed us with, for glory of His Name and for the glory of Christ; our lives are filled with these blessings so that Christ will fill all things in and through us to the praise of His glory!!

Application:

1. Because of God's blessedness to us we are to praise Him each day
2. Because of the redemption we have in Christ through His blood, we are known as saints by definition (not sinners as previous default); this is evidenced by our receiving the Holy Spirit, who is our seal and the down payment of our inheritance and belonging to God. Therefore, we should demonstrate this by blessing God everyday (that is to give Him thanks and praise)
3. It is God's desire to fill the world and universe with Christ; so we need to share the Word, for by it people hear the message of the truth, the gospel of salvation, and if they believe it they will be saved. That is to say if we don't take the gospel to them they will be unable to hear the message that imparts life to them; so, spread the gospel of salvation where you go.
4. For all who hope in Christ, these all people who have been predestined to faith according to God's kind intention of His will and His own counsel; thus, we are to spread the gospel knowing that God will, in fact, save those who are purposed in Him; what this does is leave us depending on the power of Christ alone to save them. This also reveals to us that God has purposed to save some and not others with His glory being the chief motivation. Therefore, understand that God's purposes will be achieved after His own counsel, He does what He wants when He wants.
5. God has blessed us with the knowledge of the mystery of His will. That is to say, we know what God desires and thinks, based on what He's revealed to us. The will of God is something to be known, understood, and applied. God's will is not hidden to us (like many of us think it is) and God has chosen to reveal it to us through Christ our Lord.
6. Finally, be holy and blameless. This what God's will is for us! To the effect that we can, we ought to be and strive to be practically holy and blameless, for God, in Christ, has already declared that we are holy and blameless before Him. Our feelings don't matter nor does our current state define us, because we are in Christ and in Him we can only be holy and blameless. That doesn't mean we should sin willfully, but in our constant denying and moving away from sin, we will be found holy and blameless when the time is completed for us to before Christ.