

Every Spiritual Blessing III

Ephesians 1:7-14

6/9/02

Intro

- Prayer and soup dinner fellowship tonight.

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The first three chapters of Ephesians describes what Paul says in verse three, that we have every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus.

The spiritual blessings described here in chapter one also show us the Trinity; we have spiritual blessings from the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Last week, we studied the spiritual blessings from the Father; He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ.

Now in these verses, Paul teaches us about the spiritual blessings in the Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

Intro. Notice that every spiritual blessing is ours IN Christ.

A. The Father gave us the Son, and all these spiritual blessings are IN Jesus.

➤ Jesus said, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life, no man goes to the Father except by me.”

B. The key to spiritual blessings, then, is not just learning ABOUT Him, but being IN Him.

➤ This is one of the greatest truths known!!!!

I. In Jesus, we have redemption.

Vs 7 **A. We had to be purchased.**

- The purchase price was His blood – we needed a death.
- This brings the forgiveness of our trespasses.
- According to the riches of His grace.
- Which He *lavished* on us.

Illus – His grace is so rich that it is greater than any debt which sin could create. What if someone wanted to take advantage of that grace?

God forbid! Romans 6:1.

B. Just how great is His grace?

- He not only took away our sin,
- He also gave us the righteousness of God in Jesus Christ. II Cor 5:21.

C. Because we are in Christ Jesus.

- Not because of who we are, but because we are in Christ Jesus.

II. He made known to us the mystery of His will.

Vs 9

A. “Mystery” refers to that which was formerly hidden, but is now revealed.

- God reveals Himself.

Illus – Is God an elephant??

B. God tells us that He has kind intentions.

- This is important because there are those that teach that God is the author *of all that is bad* as well as good.
- Which He has purposed in Christ Jesus.
- That all things will be summed up in Jesus Christ – in heaven and on earth.

C. It is God's will that we have an inheritance in Christ Jesus.

- Our greatest inheritance is Him!!
- The Levites had God as their inheritance; they did not have any portion of the land.

Illus – In marriage, the best desire is for the person, not what the person has.

Our greatest inheritance truly is Jesus. In our earthly marriage, we should not look to it, to completely fulfill us – we were made for relationship with Jesus.

III. The spiritual blessings of the Holy Spirit.

A. We are sealed with the Holy Spirit.

Illus – Ephesus was a major port city and as crates were being unloaded at the dock, they were sorted according to the wax seal that placed on them by the owner.

B. The Holy Spirit is given as a pledge.

Illus – in modern Greek, this same word is used for an engagement ring, which is a good picture of a pledge.

C. When we experience the power of His presence, it's good to remember that this is only a portion.

- This is not because we are lacking anything of God, it is because we still await the redemption of our bodies.

Conclusion

May we truly treasure the awesome spiritual blessings which we have received from Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit of promise!!