

Friday: Ephesians 1:15-23

Paul is recording the fact that he has prayed for these people, I ask you to look at the prayer and pray along these lines for yourself.

(Vs 15-17) Pray that God would give you the spirit of knowledge and revelation of Him.

(Vs 18a) Pray that you would see why He has “called” you (elected you, and for what specific purpose for His glory)

(Vs 18b) Pray that you would see what great inheritance He has in you. You are His inheritance; ask to understand His claim on you as His “trophy of Grace” for His glory.

(Vs 19) Pray that you would see the great power He has used to give us our spiritual life and claim us for His own.

(Vs 20-23) God’s great power was “wrought in Christ.” When God raised Christ Jesus from the dead He also raised us up from the dead “with Christ.” There is NO blessing outside of Christ, He is the doorway to blessing.

He is accepted = all in Him are accepted.

He is chosen = all in Him are chosen.

He is life = all in Him have life.

Perhaps you have wondered what we will do in heaven, I believe we will spend our days exploring the mysteries of God’s grace! How God set out on a quest to redeem man and what exceeding great power He showed towards we who believe.

Look at the prayer above and ask God to help you to see and understand what He saved you to be for His glory!

Daily Devotions

Ephesians – Week 2

Monday: Ephesians 1:1-4

I am finding these verses very hard just to “glide over.” For starters, Chapt 1-2 are just 2 run on sentences in which Paul is excitingly telling us our standing in Christ. What truths we see here!

(Vs 1-2) Here we see the term “in Christ Jesus” this is all through out these two chapt’s. Christ is the doorway to blessing; by being “in Him” we have the rest of the book.

(Vs 3) We see this again, we are blessed in Christ!

(Vs 4) This is a **GREAT** truth that makes me excited (read it again!). The Bible tells us that we were chosen in Christ before the world began. Now, I can’t explain how God says “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” and “He chose us before the foundation of the world.” **I believe BOTH!** I believe when a person gets saved God chose them before the world began. (See 2 Timothy 1:9, 2 Thess 2:13-14, Rev 17:8)

This is the wonderful doctrine of “Election.” It does not limit salvation but delivers a purpose and a plan to those God “foreknew.”

This is the reason Paul wrote Rom 8:28, Election delivers us from being a “nobody” who somehow found salvation.... To being God’s chosen before the foundation of the world, elected and called to BE something, and DO something in a PATH laid out according to God’s eternal purpose.... Why do we FEAR?

Some today have chosen to ignore this truth because they cannot explain it or understand it. I can do neither; I leave it in God’s mind and rejoice in it. I preach to every man their duty to believe the gospel and to those who do they are the elect! What a calling we have to live up to, why do we fear, (Read Romans 8:31-39)

Tuesday: Ephesians 1:5-6

(Vs 5) Here we see a big word “predestinated” In the Bible this word is always used to determine the benefits and goals of His children, not “who could be His children.” A more modern word would be “destiny.” God is about to tell us the destiny of those who come to him in faith

Yesterday we see He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, here we see He has purposed that we would be adopted into His family! He did this because it was part of “His will” (Seen in Vs 6)

(Vs 6) This verse tells us God did this to bring glory to Himself, so the world would see His grace. This is why He made us “accepted in the beloved” (“*in Christ*”) God’s glory **alone** is at the center of redemption! One great preacher said “We are trophies of God’s grace”

God found the vilest things in the universe, the ONLY part of creation other than Satan that dared to rebel and saved US “to the praise and glory of His grace”

Will you thank God for His grace? Will you live for His glory?

Wednesday: Ephesians 1:7-8

(Vs 7) Here we see reference to being “In Christ” (“In whom”) We are secondary here, God’s glory is first, but we have the great benefit of “Redemption” This means we are “bought back” according to the “riches of His grace.”

Would a slave redeemed from a harsh life of slavery exalt himself/herself against the kind master that redeemed him/her? No, they would praise their new master’s grace and give them love and devotion forever. I grieve over the attitudes of Christians today, we think salvation is all about us..... we are second. God deserved us because we had stolen ourselves from Him. Salvation is restoring His right over me!

(Vs 8) Not only did God redeem us but He has abounded towards us in all “wisdom” and “prudence.” This is reference to our election.

Wisdom = He knows everything. Prudence = He can plan for everything. He has abounded towards us in these two areas!

Have you ever worried? We all do, but God has abounded towards us in all wisdom and prudence. We may not know the future but we know the God who Holds, Sees and Plans not just “the future” but “Your future”

Thursday: Ephesians 1:9-14

(Vs 9-10) Have you ever wondered what is God’s goal? These verse give it to us. God wants to gather unto Himself all “in Christ.” Every part of Creation is under Christ’s control or will be under Christ’s control to be delivered unto the Father.

(Phil 2:9-10, 1 Cor 15:24-28) In reading these verses we see it is the height of folly to think God intends people who profess to know Him to live out from under Christ’s control. Christians are people who recognize Christ’s Lordship over them!

(Vs 11-12) Our “inheritance” (those things that God has purposed to give us) is only “in Christ” In reality Christ is our inheritance! Vs 12 tells us the purpose of God in saving us (you)

(Vs 13-14) We are sealed with the Holy Spirit as a “earnest” (down payment) on our “inheritance” until Christ returns.

God’s goal in saving man is to gather all things unto Himself for His glory. We as Christians do this willingly because of His Spirit that He has given to us, we have been changed and accept His Lordship willingly!

The Bible teaches that at the judgment every knee will bow to Jesus Christ and Jesus will deliver all unto the Father. True Christians can be recognized by their lifestyle of submission now before the judgment.

