

PART 2 – EPHESIANS 1:1-14

FOUNDATIONAL TEXT

John 1:16-17 AMP - *For out of His fullness (abundance) we have **all received** [all had a share and we were all supplied with] one grace after another and spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing and even favour upon favour and gift [heaped] upon gift. For while the Law was given through Moses, **grace** (unearned, undeserved favour and spiritual blessing) and **truth** came through Jesus Christ.*

1. Revelation – What does Chapter 1 tell us?
2. Interpretation – The word of God
3. Application - How do apply this preaching from Ephesians Chapter 1?
4. Key Messages from this preaching

1. Revelation – What does Chapter 1 tell us?

KEY VERSE “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,”

Ephesians 1:3 NKJV

- This book shows us how Great a God we serve, who God is and what he’s done – it shows us our inheritance
- God is the source of life, he has blessed us, and He has given us access to the whole scope of blessing. Healing, because it’s in the atonement is a blessing **Isaiah 53: 4... and by his stripes we are healed**
- Jesus has already blessed you with every spiritual gift that comes from on high. i.e. wisdom, patience, joy, grace and perseverance
- Paul is instructing us to live out of the heavenly realms, even though we have a physical body [soul – mind, will & emotion] – he appeals to our spirit man
- Living from that spiritual blessing, be encouraged to live out the life God wants you to live on this planet.
- When we don’t live aware, we don’t have faith to enter into the heavenly realm and receive what God is pouring out for us.

2. Interpretation – The word of God

“Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. In Him you also trusted,

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after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”

Ephesians 1:1-14 NKJV

Bible Reference	Our Riches in Christ [Ephesians 1-3]
1: Author	<i>1a Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,</i>
<p>Paul intentionally doesn't put a title before his name. Why? Because the gospel has made every one of us equal. If you start putting titles in front of people's names, you start elevating humans above other humans. This is big because it creates hierarchical thinking in the church, and the church isn't an organisation, it's a family.</p>	
1: Assembly	<i>1b To the saints who are in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:</i>
<p>Paul is writing to a living church and he calls living people saints. The bible doesn't elevate one person over another. What qualifies someone to be a saint is someone who has surrendered their life to Jesus. Someone who has simply trusted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. If you have repented and confessed him as Lord, then the bible calls you a saint. A saint is someone who has been set apart one, the 'set-apart ones' the church. The bible says saints are the called-out believers who follow Christ</p>	
1:2 Adoration/Worship	<i>Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.</i>
<p>Paul coined this phrase- grace and peace to you, from the Lord our father. It became known in the early church as a way to greet brothers and sisters – like we would say God bless you, or blessings.</p>	
Bible Reference	Our Spiritual Possessions in Christ [Ephesians 1:3-14] - Doxology
1:3 – Key Verse	<i>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,</i>
1:4– The father has chosen us	<i>just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,</i>
1:5– The father has adopted us	<i>having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,</i>
1:6– The father has accepted us	<i>to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.</i>
1:7– The son has redeemed and forgiven us	<i>In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace</i>
1:8– The son has revealed God's will to us	<i>which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence,</i>
1:9– The son has revealed God's will to us	<i>having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,</i>
1:10– The son has revealed God's will to us	<i>that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.</i>
1:11– The son has made us an inheritance	<i>In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,</i>
1:12– The son has made us an inheritance	<i>that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.</i>
1:13– The spirit has sealed us	<i>In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise</i>

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<p>1:14 The spirit has given us an earnest [deposit] guaranteeing our future inheritance</p>	<p><i>who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.</i></p>
<p><i>This is called Doxology. Doxa in Greek is ‘glory’ Glory is ‘to talk’. So Paul, is just giving glory to God as he’s talking. Doxology is just giving glory to God and verse 3-14 is all one sentence. It’s all Pauls attempt to give glory back to God. Because of what happened on the cross, who God was, who Jesus is and what the Holy Spirit did. He unpacks this incredible truth of who God is, what he’s done and what it means for you and me and it sets us up for the rest of the book of Ephesians</i></p>	

3. Application - How do we apply this preaching from Ephesians Chapter 1?

What is God saying to you out of the book of Ephesians Chapter 1 – Verses 1-14?

Chapters 1-3 are rich theological content regarding our **salvation and the blessings God has bestowed upon us.**

- How do you apply God’s grace in your life? In our weakness we are made strong in Him. Grace demands a response, a thankful response. God freely gave you a wealth of spiritual privilege. How are you giving yourself back to Him? i.e. serving in the church, stewarding your time and other’s ways to sacrifice back to God
- How do we cultivate a heart of forgiveness? God first forgave us. Are there any people or situations you are withholding forgiveness from?
- The Father guarantees eternal life to those who believe. How established in your destiny are you? What level of faith do you have that God will use you in this lifetime? [do you have areas of doubt or feelings of condemnation or unworthiness?].

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4. Overarching Messages from this preaching	
Our faith is based on God's word and God's word alone	One of our core values as a church - if it's in the bible, we want it, if it's not in the bible we're not going to do it
The word of God effectively works in you if you believe it	Plant the seeds in your heart and make sure your hearts in the right place and to receive it, believe it, put into place
Turn Away to Turn Toward	The gospel and the bible say you can turn away from sin and believe in the good news
We need to live ready	Let's study the word of God, feast on the word. Whatever you need from the Lord, it was already purchased for you in heaven in God's mind
The Bible is our authority	It's not our job to correct everyone, we are not the Holy Spirit
We are ambassadors of Christ	Our citizenship is in heaven. – we haven't arrived at our destination yet, we are in transit [and like being at an airport, this can feel uncomfortable and things aren't going to make sense]
Rejoice that your names are written in heaven	The sick will be healed, demons will come out, people will be raised from the dead, revival will break-out, but Jesus always brings us back to heaven
God wants us to live so conscious of the heavenly realm	We spend so much time wanting to bring heaven to earth [the Fathers prayer], how about we live conscious of what's waiting in heaven for us, that way, the appeal of this earth will get less and less
So that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on bed and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them Acts 5:15 NKJV	Peter walked in such an awareness of his heavenly inheritance, that he was blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus, that it effected the world around him
We live intentionally in the secret place	We're consumed with his passion, because we are in love with him and it changes the way we minister and live
Divine Sovereignty, human responsibility	God has already chosen you in Christ, before the creation of the world, in eternity past – but that alone doesn't save you.
Divine Sovereignty, human responsibility	As far as God the son is concerned, you were saved when he died on the cross for you and was raised to life for you – but that alone doesn't save you
You were rebirthed regenerated and sealed by the Holy Spirit when you chose to believe	As far as God the spirit is concerned, you were actually saved when you yielded your life to Jesus, repented from sin, believed in Him as your Lord