

The Epistle to the Ephesians

“United by a Moment”

Eph. 1:3-14 - Part 2

He praises God for:

A. Election (v.4)

- God chose us.
- “In Christ” - The Father gave a people to the Son. The Son voluntarily made Himself responsible for them, to the point of coming into the world, taking a human nature, representing them and bearing the punishment for their sin upon Himself.
- Here we are – you and I – miserable worms in this world – with our arrogance and our pride and our ignorance. We deserve nothing but to be blotted off the face of the earth. But what has happened is that before the foundation of the world, this blessed God, these 3 blessed Persons, considered us – considered our condition and planned a way that we might be forgiven and redeemed.
- Because we are in Him we are holy and blameless

B. Adoption (v. 5)

- We’ve been brought into a relationship with God. We are adopted as sons (made an heir – thus we have an inheritance (1:11, 14).
- Why did God do this? It pleased Him to do so (v. 5b). It made God happy to extend this grace and create a people knit together in oneness, and love and freedom!

C. Acceptance (v. 6)

- Literally verse 6 states that God has made us objects of grace. He has bestowed grace or favour upon us. We are accepted in the Beloved!
- God loves us as He does His own Son (John 17:23).

D. Redemption (v. 7a)

- This term refers to purchasing a prisoner for the purpose of setting him free.
- We have been ransomed through Jesus shedding his blood in sacrifice.
- The picture and allusion that the term redemption gives us is that of the exodus from Egypt. Redemption delivers you out of bondage and slavery so you can be free to worship God.

E. Forgiveness (v. 7b - 8)

- Forgiveness speaks of a cancelled debt.
- The sinner stands before God as a debtor, but his obligation brought by sin is canceled.

F. Truth revealed (v. 9)

- 2 Cor. 4:4-6
- 1 Cor. 2:6-16

G. God's ultimate victory (v. 10)

- This is our future. God is bringing all things under the authority of Jesus. This is where all history is going. Therefore we have no fear of the future. There is no need of despair.
- We have a joyful certainty of what God is up to in Christ. We have a part of a wonderful future – in the plan of God.

H. An inheritance (v. 11-12)

- God keeps His promises.
- In Romans 4:21 the Bible says; "What He has promised He is able also to perform."
- 1 Peter 1:3-4

I. Sealed (v. 13-14)

- We are God's purchased possession!
- The seal is a sign of authority and security (Dan. 6:17).
- "Guarantee" - The Greek word is arrabon. It means down payment or engagement ring.