

Spiritual Blessings in Christ

Eph. 1:3-6

Introduction:

- A. Spiritual blessings are *in Christ*.
 - 1. *All* or *Every*- None to be found elsewhere.
 - 2. *In Christ*—Baptized into Christ. (Rom. 6:4; Gal. 1:26,27)
 - 3. *Spiritual* as opposed to temporal. (cf. Matt. 5:45)
- B. *Examples* of spiritual blessings in verses that follow:

Discussion:

I. Predestination (1:4-6)

- A. Not of the Calvinistic variety.
- B. But, of the gospel variety.
 - 1. Chosen *in Him* by to be holy. (v. 4)
 - a. Chosen inheritance by gospel. (vv. 11-14)
 - b. Chosen generation, holy nation by obedience. (1 Pet. 2:4-10)
 - 2. Predestined to sons *by Jesus Christ*—He is means of sonship. (v.5)
 - a. Sons by faith in Christ (Gal. 3:26-29)
 - b. Not sons by any other means—like descending from Abraham.

II. Purchased—Redemption (1:7)

- A. The *price* of redemption: “blood of Christ” (v. 7; cf. 1 Cor. 6:19,20)
- B. The *purpose* of redemption (cf. Titus 2:14):
 - 1. To make us His purified people—“forgiveness of sins” (v.7).
 - a. Were sold under sin. (cf. Rom. 7:14)
 - b. Became pure by blood at baptism. (Mt. 26:28 w/ Acts 2:38; Rev. 1:5 w/ Acts 22:16).
 - c. Remain pure walking in the light and confessing sins. (1 John 1:7-9)
 - 2. To make us His “own special people”
 - 3. To make us His zealous people. (v. 14).
 - a. A properly directed zeal. (Rom. 10:1-4; I Cor. 15:58; 2 Tim. 3:15-17).
 - b. A contagious zeal. (cf. 2 Cor. 9:2)
- C. The *promise* of final redemption. (vv. 13-14; cf. Rom. 8:22-25)

III. Power (1:15-23)

- A. God's power raised Christ from dead to sit in “heavenly places” (1:20)
 - 1. Put him above all power. (v. 21).
 - 2. Put him over the church. (vv. 22,23).
- B. God's power raised us from dead to sit in “heavenly places” (2:6; cf 1:3).
 - 1. Were dead in trespasses and sins. (2:1-3).
 - 2. Made alive and raised up—saved. (2:4-10).

IV. Peace (2:11-22)

- A. Made possible by removing sin.
- B. Made possible by removing law of Moses.

Conclusion:

- A. How blessed we are to be in Christ!
- B. How important it to know how to get in Christ and live in Christ!