

Every Spiritual Blessing in Christ

Ephesians 1:3-14

- It is one sentence in the original Greek, over 200 words in one sentence! Someone called this the “best run-on sentence” you will ever find!
- Paul, in this long sentence, is pouring out blessing (eulogizing, praising) God for what He planned, accomplished and will continue to do in and through Jesus Christ.

The book of Ephesians can be divided into two sections under one theme.

“Walk worthy of the calling” (4:1)

- **Chapters 1-3 are the “calling,”** showing that God brought all things in heaven and on earth together in Christ and that Jews and Gentiles are all brought near by the precious blood of Christ. This section begins and ends with glorifying God for what He has accomplished in Christ (1:3; 3:21).
- **Chapters 4-6 are the “walk worthy” section,** which begins with a “therefore” in 4:1. Considering all that God has done for us, and how He has redeemed people from all backgrounds and brought them into the same body with the blood of Christ and by the Holy Spirit, there is a responsibility on our part, both individually and collectively.
 - The last few verses of Ephesians end where it began, that “grace” and “peace” come to us through the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Looking at the layers of Ephesians 1:3-14

- **OVERTURE**
 - In a musical or opera, you have in the opening a piece of music called an overture that introduces in short segments all the music you will hear throughout the opera or musical.
 - In these verses, Paul introduces all the main points of what he will develop later.
- **THE GODHEAD**
 - Father chooses...**to the praise of His glory** (vs. 3-6).
 - Son redeems...**to the praise of His glory** (vs. 7-12.)
 - Spirit seals...**to the praise of His glory** (vs. 13-14).
 - Also notice words like: “In Christ,” “According to,” “His,” and “Him.” It is all about God and His will and His glory and His purpose accomplished in Jesus Christ!
- **SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS IN CHRIST**
 - **Chosen** before Creation to be holy and blameless (vs. 4)
 - **Adopted** as God’s children (vs. 5)
 - **Redeemed** (vs. 7).
 - **Forgiven** our sins (vs. 7).
 - **Made to know** God’s eternal plan (vs. 9-10).
 - **Obtained** an inheritance (vs. 14).
 - **Sealed** by the Holy Spirit (vs. 13b-14).
- **“WE” OR “US” (JEWS) AND “YOU” (GENTILES)**
 - Look at the transition from “we” to “you” in verse 12. Those who first trusted in Christ (the Jews) are joined together and united with those who were “afar off” (Gentiles) who have also been brought near by the blood of Christ and given access to the Father by the same Holy Spirit.
 - This concept is repeated and developed throughout chapters 1-3, that Jews and Gentiles are brought together in one body in Christ.

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

- **TIME (PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE)**

- PAST – His eternal plan before the foundation of the world.
- PRESENT – He redeemed us (in our own past) and we now are all living in Christ, and are all sealed now by the Holy Spirit.
- FUTURE – He sealed us with the Holy Spirit of promise as the down payment of the ultimate redemption that will be accomplished in heaven.

“In the Heavenly Places” in Ephesians

The heavenly places is the spiritual realm, where we sit with Christ, where Christ reigns, where we wage war, and where all the richest blessings reside.

- **Blessing** – Where all the spiritual blessings are (1:3).
- **Authority** – Where Christ is as He is reigning over all things including the church (1:20-21).
- **Security** – Where we are seated now with Christ (2:6).
- **Purpose** – Where the church declares God's wisdom and eternal purpose (3:10).
- **Battle** – Where the battle is waged (6:12).

The Holy Spirit in Ephesians

- Sealed by the Holy Spirit (1:12-13).
- Access by the Holy Spirit (2:18).
- The church is the dwelling place of God in the Spirit (2:19-22).
- Revelation of God's word by the Holy Spirit (3:5).
- Strengthened by the Spirit in the inner man (3:16-17).
- Unity of the Spirit (4:3-4).
- Grieve the Holy Spirit by whom we were sealed for the day of redemption (4:30).
- Filled with the Holy Spirit (5:18).
- Sword of the Holy Spirit (6:17).
- Supplication in the Holy Spirit (6:18).