

The Inheritance of the Believer

April 18th & 19th, 2015

Ephesians 1:11-14

As we have been going through the Book of Ephesians, we have had the opportunity to focus on every spiritual blessing that God the Father has imparted upon our lives. The phrase that is repeated in almost every verse is: "In Him." In verse eleven, we find this phrase for the ninth time and it describes what God is doing through Jesus Christ.

"In Him we have obtained an inheritance..."

Inheritance: literally meaning, "I cast lots, choose by lot, assign by lot, assign a portion, receive a share."¹

f When "inheritance" is placed in the context of this verse, the passage gives us an idea of something that was given to us in Christ by divine lot (portion). God chose to give us inheritance by adoption as His children.

f What comes to mind when you think of inheritance, is the blessing of receiving something valuable from a family member or parents due to a birthright or adoption.

❖ Our spiritual adoption is the reason that we have an inheritance from God! *Ephesians 1:5*

- ♦ In Jesus we were redeemed through His blood becoming His possession. God owns us and He's giving us the privilege to be His children.
- ♦ The idea of adoption in the book of Ephesians starts in verse five, and now as His offspring, "in Him" we have obtained an inheritance.
- ♦ The idea of God giving an inheritance to His people is well illustrated in His relationship with the Israelites in the Old Testament.

Exodus 6:6-8 "Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. I will take you to be My people, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. I will give it to you for a possession. I am the LORD.'"

"...Having been predestined according to the purpose of Him..."

❖ His inheritance gives us purpose!

- ♦ Do we realize the blessing that God has poured into our life as we became partakers of His inheritance?



Deuteronomy 10:9; 18:1-2



Joshua 13:14; 13:33

- ♦ When we speak about this inheritance, we are not only speaking of a place where we are going but also a position that has been given to us as Christians.

Psalms 16:5-6 "The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance."

“...Who works all things according to the counsel of His will...”

❖ His power and sovereignty gives us security!

- ♦ Part of this glorious inheritance is that He is acting on our behalf!
- ♦ God is all powerful, and in His power He is working according to the counsel of His will, developing His own plan in our lives even when we don't understand what's happening and in spite of our weakness and unbelief.



Luke 12:22-32

“...So that we who were the first to hope in Christ...”

❖ His inheritance gives us hope!

- ♦ The greatest hope of every Christian is the inheritance to which He called us.



1 Peter 1:3-4

- ♦ The idea of an inheritance in heaven awaiting us, dwelling in the presence of God, and enjoying Him forever is our hope.
- ♦ Living hope is the ability to have eternal perspective!

“...In Him You also, when you heard the Word of Truth, ... and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit...”

❖ God Almighty has sealed our inheritance with the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:15 “For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,”

“...to the praise of His glory.”

❖ As we get to the end of the spiritual blessings in this passage, what can we say? It's all about Him!

Romans 11:36 “For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.”

Ephesians 1:13-14

“In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory.”

Endnotes:

¹ "Strong's Concordance: Greek 2820. kléroó" *Bible Hub*. © 2004 - 2013 by Biblos.com. <<http://biblehub.com/greek/2820.htm>>.

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