



MZBMP

Sunday Morning Service Study Notes
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TITLE:

Ephesians 1:13-14 - We Were Sealed With That Holy Spirit of Promise

INTRODUCTION:

- The theme of the Epistle is that we must walk with Christ on earth because of our position in Christ in heavenly places.
- Ephesians 1:13-14 is the last part of the first section of the Doctrinal Content of the epistle.

REVIEW: BELIEVER'S POSITION IN CHRIST:

From the Father

1. God has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ (1:3).
2. God hath chosen us that we should be holy and without blame before Him (1:4).
3. God hath predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ (1:5).
4. God hath made us accepted in the beloved (1:6).

Through the Son

5. We have redemption and forgiveness of sins (1:7).
6. The mystery of God's will has been made known unto us (1:9-10).
7. We have obtained an inheritance (1:11).

With the Holy Spirit

8. We were sealed with that Holy Spirit of Promise.

WE WERE SEALED WITH THAT HOLY SPIRIT OF PROMISE

- The use of the pronoun "ye" differentiates Gentile believers from Jews who trusted in Christ. Paul later uses "our" in 1:14.
- Our position is that we are sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise.
 - o The word "ye were with sealed" (ἐσφραγίσθητε - esphragisthēte) is an aorist passive verb that means to authenticate, to set a mark upon, or to stamp for security and preservation.
 - The aorist tense indicates a completed action in the past.
 - The verb is in passive voice, meaning the believers receive the action.
 - o Illustration: Last will testament inside an envelope with the signature of the testator.
 - o The believers are authenticated, secured, and preserved by the Holy Spirit.
 - Compare Romans. 8:14-17.
 - Being led by the Spirit is evidence of salvation.
 - It is the Spirit that gives assurance of salvation.
 - o The Holy Spirit is the Spirit "of promise."
 - He is the promise of the Father in answer to Jesus' prayer (Luke 24:49; John 14:16-17).
- The sealing and indwelling of the Holy Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance.
 - o Believers have already been granted an inheritance (1:11), but they have yet to receive it in its entirety.
 - o But God gave the believers an earnest (ἀρραβῶν - arrabōn) which means a pledge, a downpayment, or something that stands for part of the price and is paid beforehand to confirm the transaction.
 - o We are called joint heirs with Christ (Rom. 8:17).
 - Jesus Christ has already been resurrected and has an incorruptible and immortal body. We don't have.
 - Jesus Christ is now in Father's house. We don't.
 - It seems that what God said is not true. To demonstrate His promises to us are reliable and secure, He gave us an earnest.
- Until the redemption of the purchased possession.
 - o Believers are God's purchased possession. The Greek word is also translated as "peculiar people" in 1 Pet. 2:9.
 - 1 Pet. 2:9 "But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people..."

- The sealing and indwelling of the Holy Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of us.
 - The word “redemption” (ἀπολύτρωσις - apolytrōsin) means bought and released, describing the act of buying a slave from the market to give him freedom.
 - Believers’ redemption is divided into three:
 - Past redemption - refers to the redemption from the penalty of sins. 1:7 refers to this redemption.
 - Present redemption - refers to the redemption from the slavery of sins. It refers to day-to-day victory over sin through the Spirit.
 - Future redemption - refers to the redemption from the influence of sins. It refers to the removal of believers from the influence of the world, Satan, and our flesh to sin.
 - Romans 8 talks about these three redemptions.
 - We have the earnest or God’s pledge for our future redemption.
 - Compare 4:30.
 - Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God. To make Him sorrowful.
- We must keep waiting, watching, hoping, and serving until the redemption of the purchased possession.

YE WERE SEALED ... AFTER THAT, YE HEARD AND BELIEVED

- Ye were sealed ... after that, ye heard and believed.
 - Most of the believers in Ephesus heard and believed during the 3-year stay of Paul in the city.
 - The verbs “heard” and “believed” are in the active voice, indicating the believer as the doer of the action. Meanwhile, the verb “were sealed” is in the passive voice, indicating the believer as the receiver of the action.
 - Salvation is a gift of God and not of ourselves (2:8-9) but the individual should receive the gift of God through repentance and faith. This is not a work salvation.
 - Hearing the word of truth and the gospel of salvation.
 - These two are in accusative case, meaning they are the direct objects of the verb.
 - Hearing is an important aspect of one’s salvation.
 - You cannot trick someone into salvation; if they are not interested in listening, they are not ready to be saved.
 - For a person to hear the word of truth someone must preach (Rom. 10:14).
 - Word of truth is what the people need to hear.
 - Does Paul’s preaching solely revolve around the question, “Would you like to go to heaven when you die?”
 - Paul preached the word of truth by preaching against their idolatry, sorcery, exorcisms, astrology, and black magic.
 - This is evident in the reaction of the people to Paul’s preaching (Acts 19:26-28).
 - His preaching is different from the common soul-winning technique of our time.
 - The gospel of salvation is what the people need to hear.
 - It is the power of God unto salvation (Rom. 1:16).
 - It is how Christ died for our sins, according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and rose again the third day according to the scriptures (1 Cor. 15:3-4).
 - You can’t believe the gospel without understanding the gospel.
 - Believing in Christ.
 - Salvation is 100% faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - It means having 0% trust in oneself, religion, or good works.

CHALLENGE:

Ephesians 4:30 - And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

- Grieve (to make sorrowful) not the Holy Spirit of God.