

Paul's Epistle to the
Ephesians

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places

-Ephesians 1:3

Class Time

- Prayer Requests
- Scripture Reading – Ephesians 1:1-14
- Outline & Lesson with Questions

Ephesians 1:1–14 (ESV)

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,

To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, **4** even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love **5** he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, **6** to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ 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, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

The Plan

I. The Greeting From Christ's Apostle -Eph 1:1-2

A. Author v1a

B. Recipients v1b

1 Paul, an *apostle* of Christ Jesus by the *will of God*,
To the *saints* who are in Ephesus, and are *faithful* in Christ Jesus:
2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

II. The Blessing of the Father's Election -Eph 1:3-6

- A. Blessed with every spiritual blessing v3 **(Questions)**
- B. Chosen for holiness v4 See also 1 Peter 1:15-16
- C. Predestined for adoption v5
- D. Blessed in the Beloved v6

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

In Eph 1:3, Paul writes that God “has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.” He then goes on to tell us what those blessings are. Make a list of all the “spiritual blessings” you find in verses 4-14.

1. he chose us in him ... that we should be holy... before him v4
2. predestined us for adoption...through Jesus Christ v5
3. redemption through his blood v7
4. making known to us...his will...as a plan... in Christ vv9,10
5. In him...obtained an inheritance v11
6. When you...believed in him...were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit... the guarantee vv13.14

Ephesians

In Eph 1:1-14, how many references to the (1) “will” of God can you find? How many references to God’s (2) “purpose”? How many references to (3) “in Christ”, “in the Beloved”, or “in him”? What might these repetitions tell us about the meaning and interpretation of this passage? Take note of v 1:10.

“will” of God	4	as a plan for the fullness of time
“purpose” of God	3	
“in Christ”	13	

III. The Redemption through the Son's Blood

-Eph 1:7-10

- A. Results in forgiveness v7a
- B. Accords with grace v7b-8a
- C. Makes known his plan v8b-9

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

IV. An Inheritance with the Spirit's Guarantee

-Eph 1: 11-14

- A. Allotted in Christ v11a
- B. Predestined according to God's will v11b
- C. For the praise of His glory v12
- D. Sealed until acquired v13-14

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