



“Remember, It’s Jesus Who Delivers”

The Church’s Calling

Ephesians 1:7-12

Jesus awesomely:

I. Redeems - “we have redemption through His” (v. 7)

Only God has the :

- A. **Means** – “through His blood”
- B. **Method** – “forgiveness of sins”
- C. **Mindset** – “riches of His grace”

II. Reveals – “Having made known ” (vs. 8-9)

**** God reveals, men can help illumine !!**

“God will answer all our questions in one way and one way only – namely, by showing us more of His Son.” Watchman Nee

Only God can provide :

- A. **Discernment** – “all wisdom and prudence”
- B. **Design** - “the mystery of His will”
- C. **Desire** – “according to His good pleasure”

III. Reigns - “worketh all things ...of His own will ” (vs. 10-12)

Only God consistently :

- A. **Plans** – “dispensation of the fullness of times”
- B. **Pursues** – “He might gather together in one”
- C. **Prizes** – “praise of His glory...who first trusted”

Sentence Sermon:

“Jesus is sufficient because He is the one who redeems, reveals, and reigns.”

Additional Verses

- *Matthew 3:17*
- *Psalm 103:12*
- *Romans 8:17; 16:25*
- *Colossians 1:20, 26-27*
- *Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:2-6; 5:22-23*
- *I Peter 1:1-4, 18-19*
- *John 1:29*
- *John 17*
- *Romans 9:4*

Questions to Ponder:

- 1. What are some phrases from this passage that stand out to you? Why are they important?
- 2. Do you see any crossover ideas from our study in the first 12 chapters of Genesis and this passage?
- 3. In what ways did God the Father put a lot of trust in Jesus?
- 4. What are some action plans that believers can draw from this passage?

Many a believer falls into the trap of putting their faith and hopes in someone or something that disappoints them and causes them to stumble. We must remember the one who delivers and never disappoints. Keeping our eyes on Jesus means that we do not fall into a trap of putting our hope in our friends, family, church, or any created thing. Only Jesus deserves our attention and only Jesus continually delivers.

V. 7

- In Whom = this is where = in Christ is whom
- We have redemption = purchasing with a price and setting free
- Through His blood = this is the price = Jesus Blood (I Peter 1:18-19)
 - Was the price too high?
 - A gem dealer at Tucson Gem and Mineral show noticed a potato shaped and sized blue-violet stone and asked whether they wanted 15 dollars for this? The seller realized that the stone was not as pretty as others in the bin and lowered the price to 10 dollars. The stone has since been certified to be a 1, 905 carat natural star sapphire. It was appraised at 2.28 million dollars. It took a lover of stones

to recognize the sapphires worth. It takes the Lover of Souls to recognize the true value of ordinary people like you and me.

- The forgiveness of sins = this is the result (John 1:29; Colossians 1:20). = the taking away...the return. K
 - Sins = the numerous manifestations of our human nature
- According to = This is the source and mindset of the payment
- Riches of His grace = This is the availability of means = speaks of the abundance of possessions exceeding what is the norm of a society.
 - Grace – Yes, God’s riches at Christ Expense...-- Adrian Rogers ties this verse with the last one in applying to our lives, He says that we should
 - “Let Jesus look into your eyes today. Let Him say to you, “I love you. I accept you. I don’t love you because you’re valuable; you’re valuable because I love you.”

V. 8

- Wherein He hath abounded towards us = to cause to overflow or abound
 - In all:
 - Wisdom = skilled use of knowledge
 - Prudence = ability to discern modes of action with a view to their results

V. 9

- Having made known to us = God informs us through revelation...His Word through the prophets, His Word through His Son, His Word through Bible
- The mystery of His will = Gentiles and Jews worshipping God by faith in Spirit and in Truth = the Church.(See Eph. 3:2-6)
- According to His good pleasure which he hath purposed in Himself = same words as in verse 5...except verse 5 = “will” = private and hidden and personal WHEREAS this verse “purposed” = made Public on purpose.

v. 10

- That in the dispensation = the working it out or administration of
 - Of the fullness of times = the measuring in small quantities or at the exact right time.

- He might gather together = gather up again into one under one head. Unity out of diversity. Aorist tense = A specific act
- All things in Christ = All people = some of all types
 - In heaven = those who have gone before
 - On earth = those living today
 - In Him = the uniting factor...God separated at Babel with the Languages but God will unite with the Word of God in Christ.

V. 11

- In Whom = Christ ...notice how many times it is all about who is “in Christ” that counts
- Also = not the redeemed but also
 - “Who first trusted in Christ” = Jews
- We have obtained an inheritance = 2 ideas:
 - We inherit because we are adopted – I Peter 1:1-4
 - We become part of Christ’s inheritance = we are purchased as a love gift from the Father to the Son
 - John 17 – Given to Jesus
 - Ephesians 1:22-23 – body of Christ
 - Eph. 2:19-22 – building of Christ
 - Eph. 5:22-23 – bride of Christ

- Being predestined = predetermined
- To the purpose of Him = for a reason
- Worketh all things = works with all people – puts forth energy to effect and accomplish
- After the counsel of His will = He effectively moves people to accomplish His bigger plan for mankind.

V. 12

- That we should be = predestination is again attached to who we should be (sanctification) = expression of ongoing hope
 - We = Paul and his kind = Jews who have believed
 - “who first trusted in Christ” = Jews – recount the progression from:
 - **Jews** Acts 2:5, 41,
 - **Samaritans** – Acts 8:5-14,
 - **Gentiles** – Acts 10:36-45 - Cornelius
 - To the praise = commendation
 - Of His glory = God’s majesty and greatness (Romans 9:4 explains Israel’s predestined role)