

How Rich You Are (Part 2) – Ephesians 1:7-14

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Introduction

1. God the Father, in eternity past, chose us in Christ to be holy and blameless. God the Son, in history past, redeemed us through His blood, bringing us forgiveness. In the present we have been sealed by God's gift of the Holy Spirit, the living guarantee of our inheritance to come. What amazing blessings!
2. Last week we looked at the blessings of the Father. This week we will explore our blessings from God the Son and the Holy Spirit...

I. Blessings From God The Son (1:7-12)

- a. He Has Redeemed Us (v7a)
 - i. To redeem means "to purchase and set free by paying a price." We have been redeemed by the blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:18-21) and this means we have been set free from the Law (Galatians 5:1), from slavery to sin (Romans 6), from power of Satan and the World (Galatians 1:4; Colossians 1:13-14).
- b. He Has Forgiveness Us (v7b)
 - i. The word forgive means "to carry away." This reminds us of the ritual on the Jewish Day of Atonement when the high priest sent the scapegoat into the wilderness (Lev. 16). Christ died to carry away our sins (Psalms 103:12; John 1:29).
- c. He Has Revealed God's Will To Us (v8-10)
 - i. The great mystery of God's plan of salvation and redemption has been revealed in His church. Mystery means "something once hidden but now revealed."
- d. He Has Made Us An Inheritance (v11-12)
 - i. In Christ we have a wonderful inheritance (1 Peter 1:1-4). And in Christ we are an inheritance. We are valuable to Him (John 17; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 5:22-23; Romans 8:17).

II. Blessings From God The Holy Spirit (1:13-14)

- a. He Has Sealed Us (v13)
 - i. Once the Ephesians "heard the gospel," believed, and obeyed the gospel call they received salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9). The Holy Spirit is a gift from God to those who put on Christ in baptism ("washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit – Titus 3:5-7; Acts 2:38-39).
 - ii. We then are sealed meaning this is a finished transaction and it also implies ownership (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). It also means "security" and "protection" like the Roman seal on the tomb of Jesus (Matthew 27:62-66). The seal is a mark of "authenticity" (Romans 8:9) and this is proven in our daily walk (Galatians 5:16-17, 22-25).
- b. He Has Given Us An Pledge/Earnest (v14)
 - i. In Paul's day, it meant "the down payment to guarantee the final purchase of some commodity or piece of property." But the word translated earnest also means "engagement ring."
 - ii. Jesus is the Bridegroom and His church is the bride. We know that He will come and claim His bride because He has given us His promise and His Spirit as the "engagement ring."