



As Paul opens this letter to the faithful in the church at Ephesus, he opens by reminding the church of how they have been blessed by God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### [Ephesians 1:3](#)

[Blessed](#) be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has [blessed us](#) with every spiritual [blessing](#) in the heavenly places in Christ,  
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Those blessings have come through the work of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

The English word blessed is used three times in verse 3.

The first time blessed is used it means adorable. In other words, God the Father should be adored.

The second time blessed is used it means to speak well of. It explains why the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ should be adored. He speaks well of us and adores us.

The third time blessed is used, Paul is explaining why God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ speaks well of us and adores us.

He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly blessings in Christ.

Paul then reminds them of those spiritual blessings.

### [Ephesians 1:4-14](#)

[4](#) just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

[5](#) having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

[6](#) to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

[7](#) In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

[8](#) which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence,

[9](#) having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,

10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth — in Him.

11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

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1. He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before Him. (verse 4)
2. He predestined us to be adopted as His children because He takes pleasure in us. (verse 5)
3. He made us acceptable (holy and blameless) to the praise of the glory and riches of His grace by the redemption of the blood of Jesus (verses 6-7)
4. He made known to us the mystery of His will through the gospel because it gave Him pleasure. (verses 8-9)
5. He will gather us together with Jesus in the fulness of time and we will forever be with the Lord (verse 10)
6. He has prepared for us a predetermined inheritance according to His wisdom that will result to the praise of His glory. (verses 11-12)
7. He has given us His Spirit as the earnest of our inheritance until our deliverance is fully accomplished. (verses 13-14)

Today I want to talk to you about number 6 and 7.

God has prepared for us a predetermined inheritance. There is a lot of mystery in the bible about this predetermined inheritance.

Here is what we know about this inheritance.

- The inheritance is not earned. (Galatians 3:18)
- The inheritance will be based on what Jesus accomplished. (Colossians 3:24)
- The inheritance will be significant. (Ephesians 1:18; Ephesians 3:20)  
It will be exceedingly more than all we can ask or think. This creates the mystery.
- The inheritance will last for eternity. (Hebrews 9:15)
- The inheritance will result in the praise of His glory. (Ephesians 1:12)
- The inheritance cannot be lost. (1 Peter 1:3-5)

1 Peter 1:3-5

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials,

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It cannot be lost because for at least two reasons.

1. It is impossible for God to lie. (Hebrews 6:17-18)  
Because of His righteous nature, God fulfills every promise He makes.
2. The earnest that God has given us who have believed. (Ephesians 1:13-14)

That earnest is His Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 1:13-14

13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

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The Christian doctrine of the Trinity is that God is one God, but three coeternal consubstantial persons or hypostases—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—as "one God in three Divine persons". The three persons are distinct, yet are one "substance, essence or nature".

Within the trinity, there is nothing more significant to one member than the other two members. Whatever you and I may feel for another loved one does not compare to what the members of the trinity feel for one another. Jesus gave us some insight into what that relationship is like.

Jesus pledged His absolute loyalty to His Father.  
Jesus said...

John 5:19-20

19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.

20 For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.

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John 6:38

8 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.  
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John 14:29

But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do.

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John 17:25-26

25 O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me.

26 And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

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John 10:30

"I and My Father are one."

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However close you and I may be to someone does not compare to how close the members of the Trinity are to one another. They are literally one!

To make a covenant with us, God the Father shared with us that which was most significant to Him! He shared His Son, Jesus. He shared His Spirit, the Holy Spirit.

- [He gave His Son for us to redeem us from sin. \(Ephesians 1:6-7\)](#)
- [He gave His Spirit to us to secure us from sin. \(Ephesians 1:13-14\)](#)

All Christians have a good understanding of the significance of the redemptive work of Jesus on your behalf or you would not become a Christian.

But many Christians have a very limited understanding of the significance of the work of the Holy Spirit in us to secure us.

After I asked Sandra to marry me, I wanted her to be secure in my commitment to her and her children. I gave her a very significant engagement ring. I also spent a significant amount of money to add on to her home to make room for all our children. This was my earnest I gave to her to make her feel secure in my commitment to her.

All I gave as an earnest was money.

[God the Father gave to us that which was much more significant than money.](#)  
[He gave His Spirit to us!](#)  
[Ephesians 1:13-14](#)

The only way I could have made Sandra feel more secure about my commitment to her would have been to become one with her and move in with her. That happened on November 28, 2008. All that I am and have become hers.

That is exactly what God does for us. He gives us an earnest until we receive the inheritance He has promised us. His earnest is His Holy Spirit. When we confess Jesus is Lord, the Holy Spirit moves into our physical temple and becomes one with us. This happened to me on December 31, 1975. All that He is and has become mine.

When I finally became one with Sandra, it changed her identity and her whole life. She became Sandra Wells. She became one with me in identity, one with me in purpose, and one with me in power.

When we become one with the Holy Spirit, it changes our identity and our life. We get a new name. We become Christians. We become God's children. We become one with the Holy Spirit in identity, in purpose, and in power.

The oneness we experience with the Holy Spirit is far more significant and deeper than the oneness of marriage.

A husband and wife become one in identity, in purpose, and in power. That oneness is celebrated by sexual oneness.

The Holy Spirit becomes one with our spirit. (1 Cor. 6:17)

[1 Corinthians 6:17](#)

[17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.](#)

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Anytime in scripture the Holy Spirit came upon anyone or anything, there was a radical change in their being and their abilities.

- Ordinary people became prophets.

- Prophets become miracle workers.
- A bush burned but was not consumed.
- An axe head floated.
- A donkey talked.
- A teenager became a giant killer.

What happens to us when the Holy Spirit becomes one with our spirit?

- Jesus said this spiritual oneness causes us to be born again. (John 3:3)
- Paul said we are raised from being spiritually dead to God to being spiritually alive to God. (Romans 6:1-11)
- Paul said who we were died and who we are is a new person. (Romans 6:6-7; Col. 3:3; Galatians 2:20; 2 Cor. 5:17)
- Peter said we become partakers of God's divine nature. (2 Peter 1:4)
- Peter said we become members of God's divine race and citizens of His divine Kingdom. (1 Peter 2:9-10)
- Paul said that we have the mind of Christ. (1 Cor. 2:16)
- Paul said we become the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus (2 Cor. 5:21)

God does not act righteous because of a righteous standard. That would mean that there is something outside of God that is superior to God to which He must comply. God acts righteous because He is righteous. God acts righteous because it is His nature to be righteous. His nature is infinitely Holy and pure.

When the Holy Spirit becomes one with our spirit, we literally become the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. God's righteous nature and our nature become one. We are as righteous as Jesus Christ. We do not act righteous because of a righteous standard. We act righteous because our nature is infinitely Holy and pure like God's.

This gift of righteousness is not because of any work we have done. It is given to us based on what Christ has done.

Romans 5:17-18

17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

18 Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life.

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Receiving the Holy Spirit and this gift of righteousness is the key to reigning in life. As human beings, created in the image of God, we can be self-conscious. This means we can examine ourselves. (1 Corinthians 11:28) This can be a blessing or a curse.

- We can be sin conscious when they think about our self and condemn ourselves.

- We can be righteous conscious when we think about our self and believe in ourselves. By righteous conscious I mean I see myself the way God sees me. God wants us to see ourselves as righteous based on the atonement of Jesus and the presence of the Holy Spirit in us.

1. God wants us to be righteous conscious when we to do what is right.  
I do what is righteous because I am righteous in Christ Jesus.

2. God wants us to be righteous conscious when we sin.  
We should confess our sins. (1 John 1:9). Maintaining a clean conscience is important to the condition of our soul. (1 Peter 3:15-16)  
But our confession of sin should include faith that we are the righteousness of God. When I sin, I should not conclude I was wrong because I am wrong. I should conclude when I sin, I did not act in faith in who I am now that the Holy Spirit is in me!

Being righteous conscious of ourselves is the key to reigning in life!  
If I am righteous conscious when I am tempted, I experience the Holy Spirit's power over sin.

Jesus chose baptism in water as the initiation symbol because it was the best picture of what happens to us when we become one with the Holy Spirit.

Unlike a marriage engagement, this earnest is not something we can undue and forfeit our inheritance.

This is why Paul said this in verse 13 of Ephesians 1.

[Ephesians 1:13-14](#)

13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, *you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,*

14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory. NKJV

The English word sealed is the Greek work sphragizo (sfrag-id'-zo); It means to stamp (with a signet or private mark) for security or preservation.

When a king did this, it was a done deal. There was no going back. How much more is this true when God does it?

No wonder Paul said...

[Romans 8:38-39](#)

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,

39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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Why are some people in the church living like they have not received the Holy Spirit?

Why are some people in the church still living in fear of God's eternal judgment?

Why are some people in the church still living in fear that they will lose their salvation?  
Why are some people in the church still feeling like they are not close to God?  
Why are some people in the church still choosing to live in sin?

1. [Some have not received Jesus or the earnest of the Holy Spirit. \(2 Peter 2:1\)](#)

Some people in the church do not believe that Jesus is Lord! God will not save you until you believe Jesus is Lord! (Romans 10:9) The Holy Spirit will not be given to you until you believe Jesus is Lord! You have not received the earnest of the guarantee.

2. [Some have not been taught about the earnest of the Holy Spirit in them. \(Acts 19:1-6\)](#)

3. [Some have not believed in the earnest of the Holy Spirit within them. \(Romans 10:3-4\)](#)

They have heard the truth. They have been baptized. They have read the scriptures. They just keep believing the lies of the devil for some reason. The devil sews all kinds of lies in people to keep them from believing the truth and experiencing God's power over sin.

The presence and power of the Holy Spirit in you is not going to benefit you unless you believe He dwells in you. (1 Cor. 6:19-20).

- [Will you receive Jesus?](#)

Will you believe that Jesus is Lord and follow Him in water baptism.

- [Will you receive the Holy Spirit?](#)

Will you believe that when you received Jesus you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise?