

Meditations

on the epistle to the

Ephesians

- Our **W**ealth
- Our **W**alk
- Our **W**arfare

Ephesians 1:1 – 14

- 1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:
- 2 Grace *be* to you, and peace, from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ:
- 4 According as he hath **chosen** us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be **holy and without blame before him in love:**
- 5 Having **predestinated us unto the adoption of children** by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,
- 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us **accepted in the beloved.**
- 7 In whom we have **redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins**, according to the riches of his grace;
- 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;
- 9 Having **made known** unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:
- 10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might **gather together in one all things in Christ**, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him:
- 11 In whom also we have **obtained an inheritance**, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:
- 12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.
- 13 In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were **sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,**
- 14 Which is the **earnest of our inheritance** until the **redemption of the purchased possession**, unto the praise of his glory.

WEALTH OF THE BELIEVER

1. **CHOSEN**
2. **HOLY**
3. **WITHOUT BLAME**
4. before Him in **LOVE**
5. **PRESTINATED SONSHIP** by adoption
6. **ACCEPTED** in and as the Beloved
7. **REDEEMED** (brought back to God – set free)
8. **FORGIVEN** (our sins)
9. **KNOWLEDGE** of God's secrets
10. **GATHERED TOGETHER** in one all things in Christ (both Heaven and Earth)
11. **INHERITANCE PURCHASED** by blood and redeemed by power
12. **SEALED** with Holy Spirit of Promise
13. **FORETASTE** of inheritance (earnest)
14. will be **REDEEMED** (inheritance)

Source of Blessings

... God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ ...

Character of Blessings

... all spiritual blessings ...
... before Him in love ...

Sphere of Blessings

... in heavenly places in Christ ...

Beginning of Blessings

... before the foundation of the world ...

End of Blessings

... redemption of the purchased possession ...
... gather together in one all things in Christ (Heaven & Earth)

ACCORDING

Now to him that is of power to stablish you **according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ**, (doctrine of Romans) **according to the revelation of the mystery**, (doctrine of Ephesians) which was kept secret since the world began ... **Rom. 16:25**

Of **HIS OWN WILL** begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. **Jam. 1:18**

“According” in Ephesians 1

#	VERSE	SCRIPTURE
1	4	According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world
2	5	according to the good pleasure of his will
3	7	according to the riches of his grace
4	9	according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself
5	11	according to the purpose of him who worketh all things
6	11	according to the counsel of his own will (N.T.)
7	19	according to the working of his mighty power

Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, **BUT OF GOD**. **John 1:13**

God's Plan of full Salvation

In **Romans** we have man's side so it is **God meeting man's need** as a sinner, but in **Ephesians** we have God's side so it is **according to God's purpose, grace, will, and power**.

A Meditation on Ephesians 2

- 1 *And you* hath he quickened, who were *dead* in trespasses and sins;
- 2 Wherein in time past ye *walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:*
- 3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the *lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind;* and were by nature the *children of wrath*, even as others.
- 4 *But God*, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,
- 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)
- 6 And hath *raised us up together*, and made us *sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:*
- 7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.
- 8 For by grace are ye *saved through faith;* and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
- 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.
- 10 For we are *his workmanship*, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before *ordained that we should walk in them.*
- 11 *Wherefore remember*, that ye being in time past *Gentiles* in the flesh, who are called *Uncircumcision* by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;
- 12 That at that time ye were *without Christ*, being *aliens* from the commonwealth of Israel, and *strangers* from the covenants of promise, having *no hope*, and *without God* in the world:
- 13 *But now in Christ Jesus* ye who sometimes were far off are made *nigh* by the blood of Christ.
- 14 For he is our *peace*, who hath made both *one*, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;
- 15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain *one new man*, so making peace;
- 16 And that he might *reconcile* both unto God in *one body* by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:
- 17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.
- 18 For through him we both have *access* by one Spirit unto the Father.
- 19 Now therefore ye are no more *strangers and foreigners*, but *fellowcitizens* with the saints, and of the *household* of God;
- 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;
- 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an *holy temple* in the Lord:
- 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an *habitation of God* through the Spirit.

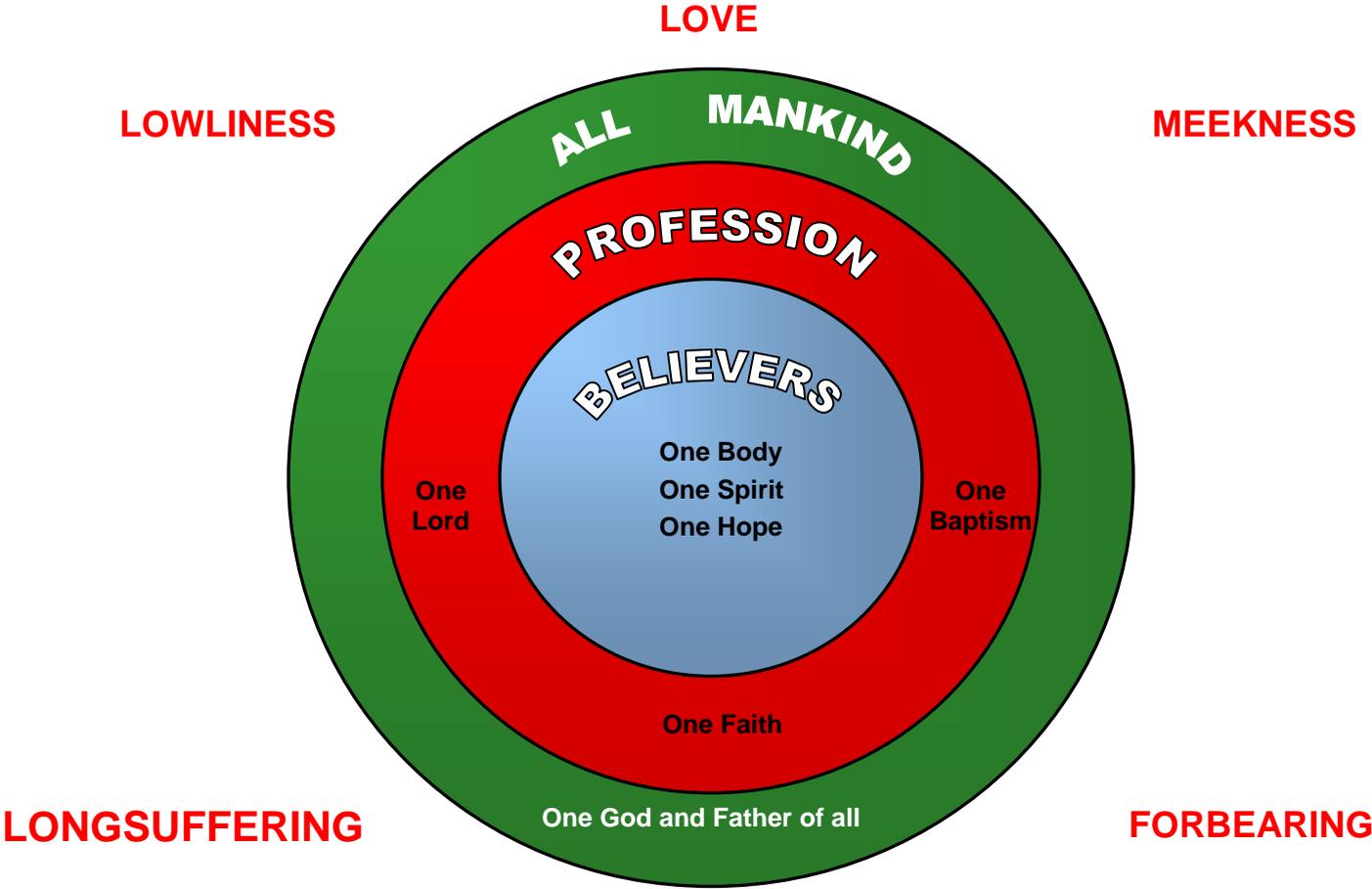
YOU WERE	GOD HATH	SCRIPTURES
Dead before God	Quickened (living) – raised us up together	Col. 2:13
walked according to the course of this world	made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus	Jos. 1:3
walked according to the prince of the power of the air	by grace ye are saved through faith	Ex. 14:13
children of disobedience (Gentiles)	His workmanship,	2 Tim. 2:20-21
fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind	ordained that we should walk in good works	Eph. 4:1; Col. 1:10; 1 Thess. 2:11
children of wrath (Israel)	His workmanship	2 Cor. 3:3; Titus 2:10
Gentiles (uncircumcision), enemies	made one new man, one body	Lev. 23:17; John 10:16
without Christ	In Christ – He is our peace	Joh. 14:27
aliens from the commonwealth of Israel	no more foreigners but fellowcitizens	Heb. 11:13-16; Phil. 3
strangers from the covenants of promise	no more strangers, made nigh	Heb. 4:16
no hope	builded upon the foundation, household of God, holy temple, habitation of God	1 Peter 2:3,4; 1 Cor. 3:16
without God	reconciled – access by one Spirit unto the Father	Col. 1:20 – 22; Heb.10:19 - 22

*All that we were – our sins, our guilt,
 Our death – was all our own:
 All that we are we owe to thee,
 Thou God of Grace, alone.
 Thy mercy found us in our sins,
 And gave us to believe;
 Then, in believing, peace we found;
 And in Thy Christ we live.
L.F. #15; H. Bonar, 1845*

*Now we see in Christ's acceptance
 But the measure of our own;
 Him who lay beneath our sentence,
 Seated high upon the throne.
 Quickened, raised, and Him seated,
 We a full deliverance know;
 Every foe has been defeated,
 Every enemy laid low.
L.F. #200; G. W. Frazer*

SPHERES TO WALK WORTHY

I THEREFORE, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherein ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is **one body**, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in **one hope** of your calling; **One Lord**, **one faith**, **one baptism**, **One God and Father of all**, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Ephesians 4:1-7



The result is
UNITY OF THE SPIRIT IN THE BOND OF PEACE

- Three spheres:** Christ Jesus the Head, Spirit of God the power, God as our Father
- Three areas of responsibility:** believers, professors, all mankind
- Five qualities:** lowliness, meekness, long-suffering, forbearance, love
- Seven unities:** one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father

The Holy Spirit in Ephesians

PERFECT ADMINISTRATION FOR THE ASSEMBLY

#	WORK	SCRIPTURE
1	SEAL	... ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 1:13
2	EARNEST	Which is the earnest of our inheritance ... 1:14
3	ACCESS	For through him we both have access through one Spirit unto the Father. 2:18
4	BUILDER	In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit . 2:22
5	REVEALER	... as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit . 3:5
6	STRENGTH	That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man. 3:16
7	UNIFIER	Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit . 4:3, 4
8	GRIEVE NOT	And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God ... 4:30
9	FRUIT GIVER	For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth; 5:9
10	BE FILLED	... be filled with the Spirit ; 5:18
11	SWORD	...and the sword of the Spirit , which is the sword of God. 6:18
12	PRAYER	Praying with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit , 6:18

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself... He shall glorify me for he shall receive of mine, and he will shew it unto you. **John 16:13, 14**

**Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.
Put on the **WHOLE** armour of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

#	Ephesians 6:10-18	DIVINE TEACHING	OTHER REFERENCES
1	Stand therefore, having your LOINS GIRT ABOUT WITH TRUTH,	Our thoughts and affections held in order by the truth	Keep thy heart more than anything that is guarded." Proverbs 4: 23-27.
2	and having on the BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS;	This speaks of practical conduct, righteousness and is expressed in the Christian by a walk in consistency with the position and relationships in which he is set.	But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. 1 Thessalonians 5:8
3	and your FEET SHOD WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE;	Practical righteousness leads to a walk in peace. The Gospel of peace that we have received prepares us to walk in peace amidst the world's unrest.	For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace , and joy in the Holy Ghost. Romans 14:17
4	Above all, taking THE SHIELD OF FAITH, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.	We need "above all", or "over all", the shield of faith to protect us from the fiery darts of the enemy. Here faith is not the reception of God's testimony concerning Christ, by which we are saved, but the daily faith and trust in God.	If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Matthew 17:20
5	And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION,	We are thus enabled to go forward with courage and energy in the consciousness that, however weak we are in ourselves, God is the God of our salvation	But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet , the hope of salvation. 1 Thessalonians 5:8
6	and THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, which is the word of God.	When the Word of God is used in the power of the Spirit against the enemy it is irresistible.	For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword , piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12
7	Praying always with all PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION IN THE SPIRIT and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.	The armour, however perfect, is not given to make us independent of God. It can only be rightly used in the spirit of dependence upon the One by whom it has been provided.	I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. 1 Timothy 2:8

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. **Ephesians 6:10, 12, 13**