Blessed with every Spiritual Blessing part 3

Recap

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,

You have already been blessed with every spiritual blessing.

- Blessed – **eulogetos –** To be blessed, adored. To speak well of. We get Eulogy from this word.
- God Himself is speaking these things over you

God **chose** you. He set you apart for Himself.

God **adopted** you. He made you His own. According to the good pleasure of His will. God decided beforehand that what He desired and that what would bring Him pleasure… is you!

God **accepted** you. He made you accepted. Highly favored.

You have been **Redeemed**. God purchased you with the blood of Christ.

You are **Forgiven**. Every sin, past, present, future, washed clean at the cross.

You have been placed **In Christ**. Given a new family, a new legal standing, a new relationship, a new location, and a new family line.

An Inheritance

Uncle Frank socks story. Inheriting Car story.

Ephesians 1:11-12 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.

- An inheritance. To the Jews, they would think the promised land. Hebrews explains that was but a shadow of things to come. They came with Christ.
    - **Hebrews 10:1** For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect.

What is an inheritance?

- Something you receive after a testator dies. (Testator is someone with a Testament, or contract – a will).
- But there is also a natural inheritance – We inherit characteristics of our family line. You have your mother's eyes, your uncle's laugh, your dad's sense of humor…
- One is a past inheritance (you are born with traits, so you got them in your past). One is a future inheritance. (Unless you are out of people above you).

There are two different types of inheritance in Ephesians 1, your past inheritance and your future inheritance.

Ephesians 1:13-14 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.

Past inheritance - we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. In Him you also *trusted,* after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation

- What we received at salvation is our past inheritance. We have already talked about many of the blessings that we've already received – Chosen, Adopted, Accepted, Forgiven, Redeemed.

- But remember – we are also In Christ. We have a new family line so we inherit the traits of that family line.

The word for salvation here is Soterion. Which means deliverance.

What were we delivered from:

- The judgement (wrath) of God
- Sin nature – The power of sin
- The Kingdom of darkness
- Death (separation from God)

We weren't just delivered from these things. We took on the nature of God, so they no longer have power over us.

- **2 Peter 1:4** by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

- No judgement because we are part of God's family.
- Free from sin because we have the righteousness of God in Christ.
- We are translated from the Kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of Light – The enemy has no claim on us.
- We are free from death because we are alive in Christ.

But more than that – we are actually becoming more and more like Jesus every day!

- **2 Corinthians 3:17-18** Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord *is,* there *is* liberty. **18** But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.
- After 31 years of marriage and 33 years of being together, Tina and I are looking more and more like each other.

- When we met people questioned it because we were so different. Now people can't picture us apart.

Who you were is not who you are now.

(Read all the bold parts as YOU…)

1 Peter 2:9-10 But **you *are* a chosen generation**, a **royal priesthood**, a **holy nation**, **His own special people**, that you may proclaim the praises of Him **who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light**; **10** who once ***were* not a people but *are* now the people of God**, who had not obtained mercy but **now have obtained mercy**.

Future Inheritance - you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Romans 8:17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

- The future inheritance.
  - One day, you *will* inherit His Kingdom.
  - You *will* inherit the nations.
  - You *will* inherit eternity in heaven.
  - You *will* rule and reign with Him.
  - You *will* have a resurrected and glorified body.
  - You *will* receive rewards.
  - You *will* have a place in heaven and in the new earth.

This world is not all that there is. This is not our home. This is not the end of things.

When we die physically is when we will be the most alive!

Sealed with the Holy Spirit

Vs. 13 also contained another blessing –

Ephesians 1:13 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

- We are sealed with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is placed ***in*** us.
- A seal marked ownership, proved something was genuine, and protected it. God has put His mark on you: you are His, you are the real thing, and you are kept.
- Verse 14 calls the Spirit the *guarantee* (*arrabon*) of our inheritance, a down payment. The Spirit in you now is God's pledge that everything in your future inheritance is coming.
- **Romans 8:9** But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

What does it mean to have the Holy Spirit?

That is too big a question to answer here. But since we are talking about our attributes, let's look at the attributes of the Spirit within us:

Revelation 4:5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

- There are 7 lamps on the lampstand, and these represent the 7 spirits of God. There is only 1 Holy Spirit. 7 is the number of completion and perfection, so the "seven spirits of God" are a reference to the Holy Spirit in the perfection of His manifold ministry. When we are fully led by the Holy Spirit, filled with the Spirit, those traits will be a part of our lives.

Isaiah 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

Isaiah is describing the Messiah; the Spirit rests upon Him. But because we are in Christ, what rested on Jesus now lives in us.

The Spirit of the LORD – The Spirit of the Lord is in us. This is Authority. Victory. This also brings freedom – "where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom" (2 Corinthians 3:17).

The Spirit of wisdom – Understanding God's ways and purposes. Discernment of truth. Revelations are found here.

The Spirit of understanding – Understanding of God's will.

The Spirit of counsel – Wisdom, guidance, direction.

The Spirit of might – Holy Spirit power. Actual power.

The Spirit of knowledge – Knowing God and the things He has freely given us (1 Corinthians 2:12).

The Spirit of the fear of the LORD – Reverence and awe of God

All of these characteristics are indwelling in us.

- When we listen to the Spirit and not the flesh, we grow in His wisdom, understanding, and knowledge.
- We can move in power and might. Miracles happen.
- We can truly fear God and know Him as our King and Savior.

He is not far from us, but is right here, inside of you.

1 Corinthians 3:16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

Our Response

Ephesians 1:15-19 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, **16** do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: **17** that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, **18** the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are

the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, **19** and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power

- Right after listing these blessings, Paul prays that they would:
    - Receive the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him – Praying into the Spirit within you.
    - Have the eyes of their understanding enlightened
    - Know the hope of His calling
    - Know the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints
    - Know the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe

Paul doesn't pray that they would get more blessings. He prays that they would see the ones they already have. That they would live by the Spirit of Christ that indwells them.

And that is my prayer for you too.

Say this with me:

I am blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ.
God has spoken well over me.
I am chosen. He set me apart for Himself.
I am adopted. I am His, and He takes pleasure in me.
I am accepted. I am highly favored in the Beloved.

I have been bought with a price. I am not my own.
I am forgiven, all of it: past, present and future.
Sin is not my master. I belong to Christ.

I am in Christ. His righteousness is my righteousness.
I am seated with Him in heavenly places.

I have an inheritance in Christ.
I have been delivered. I share in His divine nature.
I am being transformed into His image, from glory to glory.
Who I was is not who I am. I am a royal priesthood, a holy nation.

I have a future inheritance. This world is not my home.
My best is yet to come.

I am sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.
I am the temple of God. His Spirit lives in me.
His wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, and knowledge dwell in me.

THE END