#### EPHESIANS

### Already, But Not Yet Ephesians 1:11-14

## Ephesians 1:11-14 OPEN YOUR BIBLES...

#### Ephesians 1:11-12

EPHESIANS

In Him 11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, 12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.

#### "In Him Also We Have??!!! SIANS

"obtained an inheritance"
ἐκληρώθημεν (eklerothemen)

This is the only time that this is used in the NT.

The root word is *κλ*ῆϱος *(klēros)*, which is used in reference to casting lots.

#### What If I Told You? EPHESIANS

These verses are not talking about you...

#### Ephesians 1:11-12

EPHESIANS

In Him 11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, 12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.

#### A Look Ahead

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• Ephesians 1:13 -

"In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation-having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise"

#### Paul Makes a Distinction HESIANS

"We" = Jewish Christians
"You" = Gentile Christians

Paul is celebrating the miracle of the salvation and union in Christ that Jews and Gentiles share under the New Covenant. More on this in Chapter 2...

#### All Have Been Predestified SIANS

• Again, Paul is celebrating the sovereignty of God.

• And furthermore, he is illustrating God's sovereign plan of salvation.

 The main point being: God chose the Jewish people first.

#### **Deuteronomy 32:8-9** EPHESIANS

8 "When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, When He separated the sons of man, He set the boundaries of the peoples According to the number of the sons of Israel. 9 "For the Lord's portion is His people; Jacob is the allotment of His inheritance.



Acts 3:17-26

#### Romans 1:16

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"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."

So...

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# Why Are We Studying These Verses?

#### Because v. 11

#### EPHESIANS

Contains one of the strongest statements in Scripture that God is sovereign.

Psalm 115:3 – "But our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases."

This means everything to a true understanding of our salvation and the biblical narrative of redemption.

### RECKLESS LOVE CORY ASBURY



### reckless adjective

reck·less | \'re-kləs 🚺 \

#### **Definition of Reckless**

- 1 : marked by lack of proper caution : careless of consequences
- 2 : IRRESPONSIBLE

II reckless charges

#### Anything But "Reckless?HESIANS

- In v. 4, "He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world."
- In v. 5, "He predestined us to adoption."
- In v. 10, it was done "with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times."

 And in v. 11, we have been "predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will."

#### **Ephesians 1:13-14**

EPHESIANS

13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation-having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise 14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

#### Jews Were First...

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But the Gentiles have also been brought to faith in Christ, and God sovereignly did so through the mechanism of "the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation."

"After listening..." you "believed, and you were sealed"

#### This is the Mystery

EPHESIANS

#### That We Spoke About Last Week.

#### And It Is Such A Big Deal!

The Gospel Coming To The Gentiles As Gentiles



Thus Far...

EPHESIANS

#### We Have Seen the Father. We Have Seen the Son.

And Now Paul Praises the Third Person of the Trinity: The Holy Spirit.

#### Harold Hoehner:

EPHESIANS

"God's spiritual blessings for believers are based not only on the sovereign election of the Father (vv. 3-6) and the redemptive work of the Son (vv. 7-12), but also on the seal of the Holy Spirit."

#### **Did You Know?**

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There are 59 references to the Holy Spirit in Ephesians, 25% of the total references in the New Testament.

#### 1 Corinthians 12:3

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**3** Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

#### Before We Move On EPHESIANS

There are some that would say that Paul is presenting a sequence of salvation here.

- In other words, the process is as follows:
- 1. "Listen" to the gospel
- 2. "Believe" the gospel
- 3. Be "Sealed" by the Holy Spirit

They Will Cite Acts 19:1-6

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#### **The Biblical View**

EPHESIANS

When you Believed in Christ, you were Sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit.

Next Question:

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What is a "Seal" and What is its Significance?



#### **Daniel 6:17**

"A stone was brought and laid over the mouth of the den; and the king **sealed** it with his own signet ring and with the signet rings of his nobles, so that nothing would be changed in regard to Daniel."

#### Matthew 27:66

66 And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone.



#### A Seal Meant

EPHESIANS

Identification
Ownership
Authentication
Protection

And tampering with a seal was a capital offense.

#### **Revelation 5:1-5**

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#### How Are We Sealed? EPHESIANS

God seals the believer by giving him or her the indwelling Holy Spirit who keeps the Christian in Christ.

This is a promise to believers from the Lord, Himself.



EPHESIANS

16 "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever."

#### What Does Paul Mean? [PHESIANS

## "a pledge of our inheritance"



#### ἀρραβών (arrabon)

#### • William Barclay explains:

"The *arrabon* [pledge, deposit, earnest, guarantee] was a regular feature of the Greek business world. The *arrabon* was a part of the purchase price of anything paid in advance as a guarantee that the rest of the price should in due time be paid."

#### 2 Corinthians 5:5

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5 Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.





# "God's Own Possession"

#### The OT Picture

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Deuteronomy 4:20 – "But the Lord has taken you and brought you out of the iron furnace, from Egypt, to be a people for His own possession, as today."
Deuteronomy 9:29 – "Yet they are Your people, even Your inheritance, whom

You have brought out by Your great power and Your outstretched arm."



#### 1 Peter 2:9

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9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light



Abraham Kuyper

"There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: 'Mine!'"

### Turn to Romans 8:28-30

#### 9 Blessings in vv. 3-14 EPHESIANS

- 1. Election
- 2. Predestination
- 3. Adoption
- 4. Grace
- 5. Redemption
- 6. Forgiveness
- 7. Knowledge
- 8. Sealing
- 9. Inheritance

#### John Stott Summarizes: EPHESIANS

Past Election
 Present Adoption
 Future Unification

 Furthermore, vv. 3-14 tell us plainly:
 These blessings are only found IN HIM

• And they are only Accomplished in HIS WILL

#### 1 Peter 1:3-5

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**3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

#### And What For?

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In v. 6, Paul says it was "to the praise of the glory of His grace."
In v. 12, God's purposes are fulfilled "to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory."

• And in v. 14, we are redeemed "to the praise of His glory."



## It is Always About His Glory!

#### An Important Concept EPHESIANS

### Already But...

Not Yet

#### Already...Not Yet

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We ALREADY possess the Holy Spirit...
But we are NOT YET Glorified.

- We are seated with Christ in heavenly places ALREADY (Ephesians 2:6)...
  - But we have NOT YET seen Him face to face.

Christ has ALREADY saved us...
But He has NOT YET returned for His Church.

#### What a Foretaste

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 Bishop Lightfoot of Cambridge:
 "The actual spiritual life of is the same in kind as his future glorified life."

 But as Charles Hodge noted: It is "the same in kind but immeasurably less in degree."

#### Do You Remember... EPHESIANS

- Coming to Christ and understanding that you have been forgiven?
- Worshiping your Savior in awe and reverence?
- The time you followed the Spirit's prompting and were used by God?
- Discovering the gifts God has bestowed upon you?
- Responding in love where wickedness once reigned?

**Take Those Joys** 

EPHESIANS

#### And Multiply Them By Millions!

1 Corinthians 2:9 –

"Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And which have not entered the heart of man, All that God has prepared for those who love Him."