



We Are... Sealed

Ephesians 1:11-14

¹¹ In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the

purpose of his will, ¹² in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

Series Thoughts...

We are SAVED on purpose and for a purpose.

The more that we understand about our SALVATION the greater our love for Jesus and God the Father ought to grow.

Our Inheritance

¹¹ In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will,

In starting to reveal God's mystery concerning our Salvation, he makes it clear that God has a PLAN.

In conforming all things to his purpose of his will, God chose to use US.

He reminds us however that the benefit of our salvation is only to be realized when we remain

IN HIM.

"In Christ" 27 times in the Letter. 1:4,6,7,9,10,12,13,17,22,23

It means to enter into a vital union with Jesus through faith.

At FCC we describe this benefit as THRIVE (Learning to be healthy in 4 areas: Spiritual, Physical, Emotional, Relational).

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5

Our Purpose

¹² in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.

Paul makes a distinction here, that he will address later as he clarifies the MYSTERY of God.

⁹ he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰ to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

The “we” that he speaks about were the JEWISH believers (Acts 2:41; 4:4; Acts 10-11)

The “you also” is pointing to the GENTILES.

¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

Both Jew and Gentiles were brought together “in Christ” so that we would be “the praise of his glory”.

¹² in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

Together we are to magnify and worship the Father for his GOODNESS which he gave to us “in Christ”.

Our Seal

When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.

The EPHESIANS had an interesting introduction to the Holy Spirit.

⁶ When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. ⁷ There were about twelve men in all. Acts 19:4-7

Paul shares the HIDDEN work of the Holy Spirit in the believer’s life as it relates to God’s will.

¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession...

Paul summarizes the role of the HOLY SPIRIT in the believer’s life.

¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession

He is God’s mark of OWNERSHIP on the believer and the guarantee of God’s promises.

Application:

How do I allow the Holy Spirit’s mark on my life to be seen by others?