EPHESIANS

Spiritual Blessings – 1:3-14

- Election: v4. "he chose us in him before the foundation of the world"
- Predestination: v5, 11. "he predestined us for adoption to himself"
- Adoption: v5. "for adoption to himself as sons"
- Grace: v6, 7. "according to the riches of his grace"
- Redemption: v7, 14. "In him we have redemption"
- Forgiveness: v7. "the forgiveness of our trespasses"
- Revelation: v9, 10. "making known to us the mystery of his will"
- Union w. Christ: v10. "to unite all things in him"
- Gospel: v13. "the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation"
- Sealed & Secure: v13, 14. "sealed with the promised Holy Spirit"

Paul prayed for the church 1:15 – 23 That God may give us:

- The Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him
- Eyes of your hearts enlightened
- Know what is the hope to which he has called you
- Know the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints
- Know the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us
 - The power that raised Jesus from the dead
 - Christ seated at the right hand of the Father
 - Far above all rule and authority, power and dominion
 - In this age and the age to come
 - Head of the church

What God Has Done 2:1-10

We were all dead

He made us alive – together with Christ

Raised us up and seated us with Him in Christ

So that in the coming ages:

He might show immeasurable riches of His grace toward us

In Christ

By grace you have been saved
Not of works – no boasting
We are his workmanship – for good works

What God Has Done 2:11-22

- Remember we had no hope and without God in the world
- But now Christ brought us near by his blood
- He is our peace
- He made both Jew and Gentile "one"
- Both Jew and Gentile have access to the Father in one Spirit
- No longer strangers, but now fellow citizens
- Household of God built on foundation of the apostles & prophets
- Christ Jesus the cornerstone
- Joined together & being built a dwelling place for God by the Spirit

EPHESIANS

CHAPTER 3

Ephesians 3 - Past Ignorance - Present Revelation

- The "Mystery" revealed by revelation to Paul
- In the past generations there was ignorance
- The mystery is:
 Gentiles are fellow heirs with the Jews one body by faith in
 Christ Jesus

Ephesians 3 – The Role of the Church

Therefore:

"through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known"

Therefore:

I bow my knee and pray that he grant:

- That you to be strengthened with power in your inner being
- That Christ may dwell in your hearts
- That you will be rooted and grounded in love
- That you know the love of Christ

Ephesians 3:1-3

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—

- ² assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of <u>God's grace</u> that was given to me for you,
- ³ how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—

- By the time Paul wrote the book of Ephesians, he had been in prison for five years.
- Falsely charged with taking Trophimus (a Gentile) into forbidden area of the Temple – Acts 21
- Paul suffered falsely accused, held in prison, many hardships, physical suffering, near death experiences.
 2 Corinthians 11:23-27
- Suffering was from God Acts 20:22-23, 2 Timothy 1:11-12
- Paul saw his suffering as "worth it" Romans 8:18

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles —

What about our lives?

- Do we suffer? 1 Peter 4:12-13
- Is the suffering of a believer from God?
- Are there benefits from suffering?

DISCUSSION