

# Sermon

## Notes

### Shower of Blessings

*Bible Text: Ephesians 1:1-14*

#### ◆ Overview

*How blessed do you typically feel?*

Some days we may feel blessed beyond measure; other days we may feel like our blessings have stopped. Whether caused by distraction, circumstance, or plain forgetfulness, it is easy to forget our blessings. As believers who have placed our faith in Jesus, we can be assured that our life is in fact a life of blessings.

#### ◆ In Depth

In 2014, '#blessed' became popular on social media to express gratitude for fortunate circumstances in life. Users would tell of good news and end the post with '#blessed'. It was used most often in relation to single events in that person's life.

In the lives of believers, blessed does not describe a single event. It describes the whole life of the Christian. The problem is that we do not act like we are a blessed people. Often, we end up acting like the duck that thought it was a dog.

We often experience a similar confusion. We do not realize how blessed we are as children of God. So, in Ephesians, Paul walks through

the first 14 verses speaking of blessings.

Let's look at three groups of blessings Paul describes in Ephesians 1:

#### 1. Blessings from the Father (v. 4-6)

- ◇ **He Has Chosen Us (v. 4)** The first blessing we receive from God is being chosen by God to be holy and blameless before Him.
- ◇ **He Has Adopted Us (v. 5)** The second blessing we receive from God is being adopted fully into his spiritual family.
- ◇ **He Has Accepted Us (v. 6)** The third blessing we receive from God is being made acceptable through Christ.

#### 2. Blessings from the Son (v. 7-12)

- ◇ **He Has Redeemed Us (v. 7)** When Jesus died on the cross, He purchased your sin in full. There is nothing you owe. He has redeemed us. In order to be redeemed, Jesus must be your Savior. This means you admit you are a sinner and need to be saved from the punishment of Hell. You ask Jesus, through prayer to forgive you of your sin and to be your Savior.

- ◇ **He Has Forgiven Us (v. 7)** Sin is a heavy burden. It weighs us down and causes problems. But when we ask Jesus to forgive us, the Bible promises He does (1 John 1:9).
- ◇ **He Has Revealed God's Will (v. 9)** In the Bible, a mystery is a truth that has been hidden until God's plan to reveal it. When the time came, He revealed the truth to man through His Son, Jesus.
- ◇ **He Has Given Us an Inheritance (v. 11)** As believers, we have been made heirs to an inheritance. Like the share of the inheritance Israel received in the Promised Land, believers have become partakers of the heavenly inheritance secured by Jesus.

### 3. Blessings from the Spirit (v. 13-14)

- ◇ **He Has Sealed Us (v. 13)** In Revelation 5, John begins weeping because no one is found worthy to open the Seven-Seal Scroll, that is, until the Lion of Judah prevails to open the seals. Once we accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, we are sealed with a seal no one can open or tear off.

- ◇ **He Has Secured the Inheritance (v. 14)** An 'earnest' is a down payment. The Holy Spirit was given to believers to assure of salvation, while also to ensure we will take part in the inheritance of Heaven that is to come.

Considering all these blessing, the question becomes 'why are we so blessed?'

The first reason is because *God loves us and wants to.*

The second reason is for *the praise of His glory* (v. 6, 12, 14)

#### ◆ Respond

Is Christ your Savior? Have you been sealed by the Holy Spirit?

Does the word 'blessed' describe your life?



5701 Bauxite Hwy  
Bauxite, AR 72011

(501) 557-5691  
Bro. Dustyn Lewis