

**"THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS OF THE BELIEVER"**  
**EPHESIANS 1:1-14**

**INTRO:** In many ways it could be said that the BELIEVER IN JESUS CHRIST is the **RICHEST AND MOST BLESSED PERSON ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH**. At times as we look around us and see the "apparent" prosperity of the godless, that may be difficult to realize. Nevertheless it is true that **THE BELIEVER IN JESUS CHRIST HAS MORE IN LIFE AND ETERNITY THAN THE UNBELIEVER WILL EVER BEGIN TO IMAGINE OR EXPERIENCE!** One passage of scripture that solidifies that reality is Ephesians 1:1-14 where the Holy Spirit led the Apostle Paul to speak of the **SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS OF THE BELIEVER**. This text should prove not only to be an academic study of the scripture, but also a passage of **GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT** as we learn more about what we have in Christ. As the old spiritual song says, "IT IS A GRAND THING TO BE A CHRISTIAN," this text relates to us why that is the case.

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NOTE: Ephesians 1:3-14 is the longest continual sentence in the Greek New Testament. It is as if the Apostle Paul did not want to take a breath until he communicated all God has for His people from eternity past to eternity future.

**EVERY BELIEVER IS BLESSED WITH ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST ALONE!**

**I. THE SOURCE OF THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS**

**GOD THE FATHER THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.**

A. God the Father Planned and Prepared the Spiritual Blessings

1. This was done "Before the Foundation of the World" as every other aspect of our salvation was planned and prepared.

2. Because it was done "Before the Foundation of the World" the Spiritual Blessings are Eternal and can never be erased.

B. God the Son Provided the Spiritual Blessings

1. Because of His work on the Cross.

2. Because of His perfect Sacrifice.

ILLUSTRATION:

**II. THE CHARACTER OF THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS**

A. They are "Spiritual" Blessings in "Heavenly Places."

1. This does not teach that God does not bless physically.

2. It does teach that the Blessings are not earthly blessings that will pass away but are spiritual blessings that will endure forever.

B. They are "Spiritual Blessings" we as believers have in Christ and encompass **EVERY NEED AND ASPECT OF OUR LIVES.**

1. All the works of God on our behalf through our salvation.

2. All the promises of God for us according to scripture.

3. All we need for life and eternity (Abundant Life)

ILLUSTRATION:

**III. THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS**

**(According to this particular context)**

A. We are Chosen in Him - Vs. 4

1. This choice is based upon our personal response to the invitation to salvation.

2. We are chosen as a special people for HIS POSSESSION

-1 Peter 1:9,10

B. We are Predestinated - Vs. 5

("To mark out the boundaries before Hand.")

1. Predestination DOES NOT MEAN that some people are predestined to Heaven and some are predestined to Hell.

2. Predestination means that God chose His people for a PURPOSE and DETERMINED that purpose would be fulfilled TOTALLY through SPIRITUAL ADOPTION.

3. Through Spiritual Adoption we as believers have **ALL RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES AS GOD'S CHILDREN!**  
Romans 8:29; Galatians 3:26.

- C. We are Accepted in the Beloved - Vs. 6
  - We are Children of God ONLY because of the Work of Christ who is the "BELOVED OF GOD."
- D. We have Redemption from Sin - Vs. 7a
  - We are purchased from the MARKET OF SIN never to be replaced.
- E. We have the Forgiveness of ALL sin - Vs. 7b
  - The Blood of Christ cleanses us for EVERY POSSIBLE SIN!
- F. We have the Wisdom and Prudence of God - Vs. 8
  - The ability to know and do the will of God.
- G. We have the Understanding of a Great Mystery - Vss. 9,10
  - 1. In the N.T. a mystery is NOT a secret. But speaks of a TRUTH not PREVIOUSLY KNOWN.
  - 2. The mystery here is that we as believers are taught in scripture that in God's time everything will be brought together under Christ as King!
- H. We Have a Great Inheritance - Vss. 11,12
  - The security of **ETERNAL LIFE** that includes all the care and provision of God. 1 Peter 1:3-5
- I. We are Sealed by the Holy Spirit - Vss. 13,14
  - 1. God's mark of His **ETERNAL POSSESSION** of us.
  - 2. God's guarantee of our **ETERNAL SECURITY**.
- J. We are Enriched In Christ - 1 Corinthians 1:5-8

ILLUSTRATION:

#### **IV. THE RESPONSE TO THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS**

**"BLESSED BE THE AND FATHER" 1:3**

- A. Worship God
- B. Praise God
- C. Serve God

ILLUSTRATION: