

All Spiritual Blessing in Christ

Ephesians 1:3-14

- My apologies to our Spanish speaking brothers and sisters. The internet at our home was down and I could not access the Bible program containing my Spanish translations to post today's scriptures in both English and Spanish.
- The good Lord willing we will fix this by next Sunday.

All Spiritual Blessings in Christ

- We could divide this passage into three parts.
- a) The first the blessings given to us by God the Father.
- b) The second the blessings given to us by God the Son.
- c) The third the blessings given to us by God the Holy Spirit.

- **TRINITY** - Theological term used to define God as an undivided unity expressed in the threefold nature of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This doctrine is considered as a divine mystery beyond human comprehension to be reflected upon only through scriptural revelation.
- The Trinity is a biblical concept that expresses the dynamic character of God.

THERE IS ONE GOD

- Deuteronomy 6:4 - 4 “Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one!
- Galatians 3:20 - Now a mediator is not for one party only; whereas God is only one.
- 1 Timothy 2:5 - 5 For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

Isaiah 44:6 - 6 *“Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: ‘I am the first and I am the last, And there is no God besides Me.*
NASU

James 2:19 - 19 *You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.* NASU

"HE HAS MADE KNOWN TO THE MYSTERY OF HIS WILL"... GOD HAS REVEALED HIS WILL TO US (9-10)

- Ephesians 1:9-10 - *In all wisdom and insight 9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him 10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. NASU*

FIRST – JESUS IS THE MYSTERY.

- “summing up of all things in Christ.”
- Barclay paraphrased it this way: *This happened because he made known to us the once hidden but now revealed secret of his will, for so it was his good pleasure to do. The secret was a purpose which he formed in his own mind before time began, so that the periods of time should be controlled and administered until they reached their full development, a development in which all things, in heaven and upon earth, are gathered into one in Jesus Christ. This text describes God’s purpose for human history. Perhaps nowhere else is God’s purpose for human history so concisely summarized.*

John 14:6 –

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me."

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He is the way. The word is
“*hodos*”.

SECOND...THE GENTILES ARE TO BE FELLOW HEIRS IN CHRIST

- Ephesians 3:3-7 – “... that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. 4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; 6 to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel, NASU

- Romans 12:14-21 - *14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. 16 Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. 17 Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. 19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. 20 "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. NASU*

- Galatians 3: 28 - *28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.* NASU
- Romans 1:16 - *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.* NASU
- Colossians 3:11 - *11 a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.* NASU

Romans 13:8 –

*8 Owe nothing to anyone
except to love one another;
for he who loves his
neighbor has fulfilled the
law.*

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THE "WILL OF GOD" THAT IS NOW REVEALED
PERTAINS TO WHAT GOD PLANNED TO
ACCOMPLISH IN JESUS CHRIST...

- By the death of Christ, Jew and Gentile can become one body
- By the blood of the cross, God is able to reconcile all things to Himself
- The ultimate consequence of this "reconciliation" is that we might be presented "holy, and blameless, and beyond reproach in His sight" - Col 1:22; cf. Ep 1:4

GOD HAS GIVEN US AN INHERITANCE (11-12)

- Philippians 4:19 - *19 And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.* NASU
- 1 Corinthians 2:6 - *However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"—* NIV

- 2 Corinthians 5:1-9 - For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven, 3 inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not be found naked. 4 For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed but to be clothed, so that what is mortal will be swallowed up by life. 5 Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.

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SEALED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

- The word is sphragizo {sfrag-id'-zo}, which means "to set a seal upon, mark with a seal, to seal"
- A "seal" was used for various reasons, including:
- To guarantee the genuine character of a document (Esther 3:12), or, figuratively, of a person (1Co 9:2)
- To mark ownership (So 8:6)
- To protect against tampering or harm (Mt 27:66; Re 5:1)

HOW IS THE HOLY SPIRIT OUR "SEAL"?

- In Ro 8:16, the Spirit Himself "bears witness" that we are children of God (i.e., guarantees our genuine character)
- In Ro 8:9, the indwelling Holy Spirit is considered evidence that we are truly Christ's (i.e., a mark of ownership, cf. also 1Co 6:19-20)
- In Ro 8:13-14, it is by the Spirit of God that we "put to death the deeds of the body" so we can live (i.e., to some degree helping to protect against tampering or harm, cf. also Ep 3:16)

- Ephesians 1:13-14 - *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.* NASU