

## Ephesians 1:3–14

### Blessing the God of Glorious Grace

**Wednesday, October 30, 2024 • Read Ephesians 1:3-14**

*Questions from the Scripture text: Of Whom is God the Father (v3)? With what spiritual blessings has He blessed us? Where? In Whom? What else did God do to for us in Christ (v4)? When? For what end purpose/result? To what has He predestined us (v5)? By what means? According to what reason? For what further/ultimate purpose (v6)? What did He make us by that grace? What do we have through His blood (v7)? According to the riches of what? What has He made known to us (v9)? Where/in-Whom did He purpose His good pleasure? In whom did He plan to gather together all things (v10)? For when did He plan this to happen? What did we obtain in Christ (v11)? How many things does God work according to the counsel of His will? What was God's purpose for the first believers' trusting in Christ (v12)? What brought about the Ephesians' faith (v13)? How were they sealed when they believed? What is the Holy Spirit to us (v14)? Until when? Unto what ultimate purpose?*

**What is God doing?** Ephesians 1:3–14 helps us prepare to hear 2:1–5 proclaimed in the morning public worship on the coming Lord's Day. In these twelve verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **God does all things, to bring us into our inheritance with Christ, unto the praise of His glorious grace.**

This passage teaches us why God created the heavens and earth. The answer, of course, goes back into eternity (v4). God had predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself (v5).

But how could this come about? How could creatures come to be united to the God the Son, the Creator? Because God, who had chosen us to be holy and blameless before Him in love refused to allow us to perish in our sin.

This adoption in everlasting love has its own "why" purpose. To the praise of the glory of His grace (v6).

His giving us the inheritance of being like Him and with Him forever has the same purpose. That believers would be to the praise of His glory (v12).

When at last we are displayed as the blood-purchased possession of Christ, it will also be unto the same purpose. To the praise of His glory (v14).

This is the chief end of man: that the elect would glorify God by eternally enjoying Him as His own dear children as the glorified brethren of the Firstborn, our Lord Jesus Christ!

Whatever you are going through, this is what your trial is accomplishing! Whatever else God intends to do through the task in front of you, this is what the duty before you will ultimately accomplish!

Indeed, everything that God does, in all places, at all times, is for the purpose of bringing us into our inheritance (v11): conformed to Christ, and blessed with His own blessedness (v3), as adopted children, to the praise of God's glorious grace. And the greatest thing that He has ever done, the great mystery of all of history, was the shedding of Christ's blood to obtain that inheritance for us (v7–10).

There is no more comfort-assuring, joy-enlarging, purpose-giving doctrine than God's eternal, adopting election to the praise of His glorious grace!

**What are you going through? What tasks lie before you? What is happening in all the world? What is God doing through all of these things?**

*Sample prayer: Lord, we bless Your Name, as Christ's God and Father, and our God and Father. Thank You for adopting us as Your children in Him, and purchasing this adoption by His blood. Grant that, just as You have done all things for the praise of Your grace, that we also would do all things for the praise of Your glorious grace. Unto that end, keep helping us by Your Spirit, we ask through Your Son, AMEN!*

**Suggested songs: ARP128 "How Blessed Are All" or TPH425 "How Sweet and Awesome"**

**(The following is a machine-generated transcription. PLEASE BE AWARE of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via [hopewellarp.org](http://hopewellarp.org))**

Ephesians 1 verses 3 through 14. These are God's words. Blessed. Be the God and father of our Lord. Jesus Christ who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the Heavenly places in Christ. Just as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world that we Should be holy and without blame before him in love.

Having predestined us to adoption as Sons by Christ Jesus to himself. According to the good pleasure of his will. To the praise of the glory of his grace. By which he made us accepted in the Beloved. In him, we have Redemption through his blood. The Forgiveness of sins according to the riches of his grace.

Which he made to a bound toward us and all wisdom and prudence. Having made known to us the mystery of his will. According to his good pleasure, which he purposed in himself. That in the dispensation of the fullness of the times. He might gather. Together in one, all things in Christ.

Both, which are in heaven and which are on Earth and him. And him. Also, we have obtained an inheritance being predestined. According to the purpose of Who works all things according to the Council of his will that We who first trusted in Christ? Should be to the praise. Of his glory.

In him. You also trusted after you heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation. And him also having believed. You were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. Who is the guarantee of our inheritance. Until the Redemption of the purchased possession. To the praise. Of his glory.

So, the Apostle starts out his letter after the greeting. That we considered last time. The Apostle starts out his letter by praising. God blessed be the God. And father Of our Lord. Jesus Christ. Why is he praising God? Well, because this is The purpose of all things. This is God's purpose in all things.

Only God is from Everlasting to Everlasting. And so, the reason that there is anything is because he has decided that there would be things. And the reason that things happen, is that he has decided. That things would happen. And his reason in deciding all these things, is for the praise.

Of his glory. And so three times. The passage after this blessed, be the God, and father of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We have. these little climaxes, these little Peaks in the text. announcing the ultimate end, the chief end. Purpose of all these things. So verse 6. To the praise of his glorious, Grace.

And then verse 12. To the praise of his glory. And then verse 14. To the praise. Of his glory now. There are. Three things then that he does unto the praise of his glory. One is. By Christ's accomplishing his Redemption, our Redemption. Christ. Accomplishing our Redemption. He made us accepted.

In the Beloved. Verse 6 to the praise of the glory of his grace by which he made us accepted in the Beloved.

And so Christ accomplished, our Redemption, to the praise of God's glorious Grace, but he also applies Our Redemption when he gives us his Spirit. The spirit brings us to. In the Lord, Jesus. we who trust in Christ verse 12 says Or to the praise of his glory. So Christ, accomplishes our Redemption to the praise of God's glory Christ applies that Redemption to us, when we come into Union with him.

We trust into Christ. Were adopted in him justified in. This is also to the phrase of his glory in there, it's coming a day. When we will have our salvation completed, where we will come into the full possession. Of our inheritance. And that also is. And will be rather to the praise of his glory verse 14.

The spirit of promises, the guarantee of our inheritance until the Redemption of The purchase procession. To the praise of his glory. So there are these Three, great things in time. Past. Christ. Accomplishing our Redemption, praise present. As. Redemption. Is applied to those who come to Faith in him.

And then future, when the Redemption is completed, And we come into possession. Of the inheritance. Now, all these things, although they happen in time, they have been decided and planned from Before Time began. He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the Heavenly places in Christ verse 3.

So our Union with Christ. Now in the present means that although we are not yet In ourselves in heaven, we are in Christ in heaven because we're United to him. And this Union with him in which we are seated in heaven, Flows from our being chosen in him. Verse 4.

many who argue about election and especially those who argue against election. Although even some who with some partial understanding and a real big gap in their knowledge argue for election. They forget that the main thing, the main who or whom in election Is not those who are elected, although we're very thankful to be those who are elected.

The main thing is him in whom. They were elected. Election has, especially to do with Christ. And the glory of God in his son. And so he's called The God and father of our Lord. Jesus Christ, referring to the first person of the godhead. By his eternal identity. As the father of the son.

Yesterday, we celebrated the birthday of the child that made me a father. God, the father was never made a father. He is father from all eternity. Because he is father in relation to the son. Who is God with him and with the spirit one God in three persons forever.

But God then takes His Eternal fatherhood in the first person of the godhead. And he determines. That he will make us to be children. That we will experience. The fatherhood of God. In his love, towards us and his Delight in. And the complete flow toward us of all the good that is in him.

That which belongs to the Lord Jesus by right of his person, by fact of his godhead God decides, he is going to give to creatures, he's going to make creatures. In order to give them adoption. So election is election in Christ. Predestination is predestination to adoption. Verse 5. This.

Is what the good pleasure of God's will from all eternity. As determined. That God would glorify his grace. By glorifying the In giving us to know him as our father and glorifying the son and giving us to be United to the son in whom we are. Chosen in giving us the spirit who brings us to Faith in the son and who seals us and is with us and secures us and secures for us.

A purchased possession is the Holy Spirit of Promise, the name that he gets. In verse 13. And so you have this good pleasure of God in verse 5. This good pleasure of God in verse 9, which he purchased in himself, while in himself because he does it from outside of time outside of creation.

There's nowhere else. No one else. That could have any put input whatsoever. When the times are full. He will not only. bring us into our inheritance. Praise God. But he will gather together in one all things in Christ. It is God. Great pleasure, that he would glorify himself, most of all.

In his son. This. what God is doing in all places and all times. So, the will of God. That is the same will in which he chose us to be his children, decided to give us to know him as our father decided to give Christ for us, that we might have adoption in the Lord Jesus.

This amazing will. The will that is operating not just in some narrow part of God's Providence, Which is how your life would be and how you came to Faith and how you would grow you and bring you at last through all of the different things that you are experiencing in your life, bring you at last into the full enjoyment of him and his glory.

Let's say, narrow slice of Providence. That sounds pretty white. What do you think about everything? That's included? But not just the things concerning us. And our own personal salvation. But his will. Is ruling and overruling has ordained. What happens everywhere? And so in Christ verse 11 says, we have obtained, an inheritance because we were predestined.

According to the purpose of him, not just who works our life, according to the Council of his will. But he works all things. According to the Council of his will. So, whoever gets elected president on Tuesday, for instance. The ultimate reason. Is that Christ would be glorified in all things.

And that we would be brought into our inheritance in Christ. That's why everything happens. And so, praise God. We have. Heard the word of Truth. Verse 13, we have come to Having believed the Holy Spirit who gave us the faith now has sealed us, so he's come to be on us and with us to assure us that we belong to God, and that all things are working together to bring us into our inheritance.

All these things are necessary. It's not a Naked, determination, God, ordains and plans, the means he plans how he will do it as well. And every part of it. Is full of his goodness and his And his grace towards us. Truly, he has devised a perfect and wonderful way.

To glorify himself to glorify his grace. And that's why as The Apostle. Praying about this. triple way or in these three parts. About the Salvation that God. Planned. Accomplish. Applies. And we'll complete. He says to the praise of the glory of his grace. To the praise of his glory to the praise of his glory.

And he starts. Where we should finish. And where we should be all in between blessed. That's where we should start. Wake up in the morning, realize you're awake. You come back to conscious awareness of existence, you say, blessed be God. All day long. As you receive things in his Providence, you say blessed, be God.

You think about where all this going and what it shall be, at the last, what we shall be at the last or we shall enjoy at the last Say blessed, be God. This is the right response. To who he is, what he has done. What he is doing. What he will have done.

May the Lord give us. To bless his name. To praise his glorious Grace. Amendment spray.

Oh gracious. God in our heavenly father. Oh, Silly and foolish. We are that we are forgetful of you and turn our attention away from you. So that We on many occasions. Are not full in heart and mouth. Of blessing, your name of praising you So, Grant the ministry of your spirit.

That we would be mindful of you. For how could we be? Mindful of You O Lord who have planned and done and Purposed and guaranteed that you will do all these things. How could we be? Mindful of you? Without being full of praise. And oh, what a life we might have.

If our minds were full of you and our hearts were full of praise, And our whole life was a responding to you and is saying blessed, be God. With our affections, with our words with our actions, So help us. Thank you for your worship. Thank you for your word.

Grant that your spirit would apply that word to us. And the rest of our life as well. Yes. In Jesus name. Amen.