



Daily Devotional

Note for 20251002 - Ephesians 1 - A Good Place to Start

1. Opening

We are to receive the Word of GOD by the Spirit, so I strongly urge you to pray before you receive the Devotional. Let Christ take the lead in your Spiritual Development.

Watch on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/MQXib2SgKjs>

Introduction

See this as a summary of the faith, in complex phrasing, to define the truth of the Gospel, precisely. There is, however, one complexity, that it is an overload of intense and profound revelations in Jesus Christ our Lord (This is a good place to start). It is all true, but can a person take hold of it in one moment, and understand what is written? This must be seen as a single statement, though condensed, profound for him who can understand. It exceeds my own ability, so I will be going through it in sections (I was not to include verse one and two when reading). It reminds me of the complex chemical formulas that I could never grasp well. It was just too much at one time. These are profound truths which can unlock further insight into our faith in GOD the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 1 is best understood if you can see: 1.) The Father our Creator, 2.) Jesus Christ, His Only Begotten Son, through whom we are Saved and, finally, 3.) The Holy Spirit as the indwelling Spirit of GOD in us (You cannot understand Ephesians 1 if you do not acknowledge the Trinity because it speaks of all three)

2. Scripture Text

Ephesians 1:3-23 KJV

[3] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: [4] according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: [5] having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, [6] to the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. [7] In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; [8] wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; [9] having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: [10] that in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: [11] in whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: [12] that we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. [13] In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, [14] which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory. [15] Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, [16] cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; [17] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in

the knowledge of him: [18] the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, [19] and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, [20] which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: [22] and hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, [23] which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.
<https://bible.com/bible/1/eph.1.3-23.KJV>

3. Devotional Reflection

(From the Audio Transcript)

We are currently in a crucial moment in time (There is no more playing around or long-term planning other than our life insurance for eternity, which is in Christ alone). We are looking at the story of humanity since creation, and we are now at Jerusalem, taking a point-by-point direction from the Spirit of God and the word of God. The intensity of this time suggests that if this earth was put together with nuts and bolts, they all seem to be loosening at the same time (Something's got to give). We know that we will never be tested beyond our capacity. The weight being piled on is just enough to get mankind back on their knees but not flattened to the ground.

Ephesians 1 serves as a profound statement (It is probably the most crucial chapter for understanding God, our place with God, what God wants, and what we mean to God). Paul, as a former chief student of the strictest sect, the Pharisees, had a profound understanding of the Old Testament (the law and the prophets) in relation to the testimony of Christ.

We must recognize that everything said here in Ephesians 1 is exclusively said to those in Christ. Christ was the plan since at least Genesis 3:15. When we bring a matter before the Lord in prayer, He considers it (The prayer of a just man avails much). God notes every syllable. If it pleases Him, God will even turn back time, as He did for King Hezekiah, by moving the entire planet or the sun (One of the two needs to move in order to move that sun dial's degrees back 10°). The just man in me is Christ by the Holy Spirit.

Verses 3 through 6 constitute one sentence, one thought, and one consideration. The Father chose us in Him before the foundation of the world. This was so we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, meaning the salvation plan in Christ was established at the foundation. God has predestinated us unto the adoption of children through Jesus Christ (It was always God's plan, according to the good pleasure of His will). To the praise of the glory of His grace, we are made accepted in the beloved (It is done, past tense).

The question we must ask ourselves is: Am I living toward holiness and being set apart unto God (Is my mind and heart especially His, set apart from everything in this world for God's

purpose)? Am I living the best life to honor my Creator, or is my belief just a Sunday ritual? We tend to focus on how we believe in God, but we must consider how God believes in us. We stand on the receiving end of grace and mercy at the cross, but we also stand guilty before the throne of God. Salvation is available to those who acknowledge their guilt, come to repentance, and make a turnaround (A 180 degree, renouncing the ungodly yearning and burning of the flesh). Romans 8:1 applies: There is no condemnation for those in Christ who walk after the Spirit, not after the flesh (This is the key qualifier).

4. Verse of the Day

From the YouVersion Bible App

1 Chronicles 16:34 KJV

[34] O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; For his mercy endureth for ever.

<https://bible.com/bible/1/1ch.16.34.KJV>

Note on the Verse:

Greater context from a bit of an expansion of the text, as Asaph writes:

1 Chronicles 16:23-36 KJV

[23] Sing unto the LORD, all the earth; Shew forth from day to day his salvation. [24] Declare his glory among the heathen; His marvellous works among all nations. [25] For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: He also is to be feared above all gods. [26] For all the gods of the people are idols: But the LORD made the heavens. [27] Glory and honour are in his presence; Strength and gladness are in his place. [28] Give unto the LORD, ye kindreds of the people, Give unto the LORD glory and strength. [29] Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: Bring an offering, and come before him: Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. [30] Fear before him, all the earth: The world also shall be stable, that it be not moved. [31] Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: And let men say among the nations, The LORD reigneth. [32] Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof: Let the fields rejoice, and all that is therein. [33] Then shall the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the LORD, Because he cometh to judge the earth. [34] O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; For his mercy endureth for ever. [35] And say ye, Save us, O God of our salvation, And gather us together, and deliver us from the heathen, That we may give thanks to thy holy name, And glory in thy praise. [36] Blessed be the LORD God of Israel For ever and ever. And all the people said, Amen, and praised the LORD.

<https://bible.com/bible/1/1ch.16.23-36.KJV>

5. Closing Paragraph

We must remember that insurance and financial planning are not our salvation (Don't let preparation for old age be your savior; let Christ be your savior). The Lord would rather have a repenting heart (like David) that may fall short in the law, but stand firm in heart for Him, than mere obedience without the heart. This fiery trial is the time to consider: What is the word in your life, and who is Jesus in your life?

Selah, Shalom

6. Resources

Playlists:

Find all playlists compiled on SoundCloud (and feel free to share with your loved ones.)

Find playlists at: <https://soundcloud.com/houseofbread4u/sets>

NEW: Download Music

We have added the ability for you to download the music you heard in the devotionals. You can listen to the song before hitting the "Download" button to know it is the right song you wanted.

For now at least, these are free downloads and my hope is that I can keep it free. Enjoy!

Link: <https://music.thehouseofbread.co.za/index.php>

Radio Stations:

House of Bread Music Radio App

Download link: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.app.houseofbreadmusic>

The Stern Watch Radio App

Download link: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.app.sternwatch>

Or scan the QR Code below



Brought to you by ministry



www.thehouseofbread.co.za