

## Ephesians 1:1-14 **Saints in Ephesus – Blessed, Chosen, Redeemed, Sealed**

**1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God,

To the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus: **2** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Blessed with every Spiritual Blessing

**3** 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,

### Chosen before the foundation of the world – Predestined to Adoption

**4** 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, **5** having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, **6** to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved.

### Redemption through His blood – Mystery Revealed

**7** In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace **8** which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, **9** having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, **10** 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--in Him. **11** In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, **12** that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

### Believers Sealed with the Holy Spirit

**13** In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, **14** who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

#### Greeting [Ephesians 1:1-2]

- † Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God.
  - ✧ Paul received his Apostleship by the Will of God.
  - ✧ Paul's Apostleship is to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
  - ✧ **Apostle** is defined as: one that is sent, a delegate, ambassador, official commissioner.
- † Paul is writing to the Saints in Ephesus.
  - ✧ They are also known to be faithful in Christ Jesus.
- † Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Blessed with every Spiritual Blessing [Ephesians 1:3]

- † First Blessed above all is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
    - ✧ God has blessed us with **every** Spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ.
    - ✧ As with the Corinthians, the Ephesians have not fallen short in any of the Spiritual gifts.
- [Ephesians 1:3, 1 Corinthians 1:7]

#### Chosen before the foundation of the world – Predestined to Adoption [Ephesians 1:4-6]

- † God's plan for us was established Before the foundation of the world.
  - ✧ In that plan, God chose for His saints to be holy and without blame before Him in Love.

- ✧ Since it was established before the foundation of the world, it is said to be predestined or predetermined that those who believe should be adopted as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself.
- ✧ The destiny is what is predestined.
- ✧ The destiny for the unbelievers is the same form of predestination ending in the Lake of Fire, because it also was established before the foundation of the earth.
- ✧ This is not individual predestination, but predestination based on the individual's personal choice to believe or not to believe. [John 1:12, Romans 3:21-22, 4:9-12, 23-24, 1 Corinthians 1:21, Galatians 3:22, Ephesians 1:15-19, Hebrews 10:39, 1 John 5:13]
- ✧ This form of predestination leading to our adoption as sons is according to the good pleasure of God's Will.
- ✧ The result of which leads us to praise of the glory of His Grace.
- ✧ It is by His grace He has made us accepted in the Beloved.

#### **Redemption through His blood – Mystery Revealed [Ephesians 1:7-12]**

- † Through the blood of Christ we have been redeemed from the consequence of sin allowing God to forgive our sins according to the riches of His grace.
  - ✧ God caused all wisdom and prudence to abound toward us by making known to us the mystery of His will.
  - ✧ All of this was according to His good pleasure which God purposed in Himself.
  - ✧ The goal was that in the dispensation of the fullness of times God might gather all things together in Christ, that includes all things in heaven and on earth.
  - ✧ In Christ we have obtained an inheritance which was predetermined by God according to His own purpose.
  - ✧ God works all things according to the counsel of His own will.
  - ✧ God's intent is that we who trust in Christ should be made one to the praise of **His glory**.

#### **Believers Sealed with the Holy Spirit [Ephesians 1:13-14]**

- † You trusted in Christ after you heard the word of truth, the Gospel of your Salvation.
  - ✧ When you believed the Gospel of Salvation, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.
  - ✧ The Holy Spirit is the guarantee of our inheritance until the time of the redemption of the purchased possession.
  - ✧ The reference to the redemption of the purchased possession is speaking of the time when we will receive the promised new spiritual body. [Romans 8:23, 1 Corinthians 15:35-54]
  - ✧ When we receive our new spiritual bodies, it will lead us to heartily praise His glory.