

THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

PAUL'S PRISON EPISTLE

CHAPTER 1:12-13

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TITLE:

"ARE YOU SEALED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT?"

BEING READY TO SHARE THE LORD

THEME:

Ephesians 1:3

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,

INTRODUCTION

Read Verses 1 thru 11 (12-13)

Stressing the Position & the Security of Our Salvation in Christ

Growing up, going to the Stater Bros. Market in San Diego and then in Orange County. We would get the Blue Chip Stamps or the Green Stamps with every purchase. (We would fill the book)..... or the trusty "K-Mart" lay-a-way plan allowed you to hold the items you wanted in your name.

Beginning in Verse 3 thru to verse 23

We have the Confirmation Given of Our Position in Christ...

We are Chosen & Sealed...

*In the Lord and **By** the Lord **for** the Lord*

1. God's Divine Election Produces Praise

vv. 12

One of the marks upon a believer's life
...is the desire to give praise to God
But before that can happen, you must understand &
realize what He has done for you. Knowledge of God will
always result in thanksgiving and praise.

John 4:23

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the
Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. "God is Spirit, and
those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Me & Richard Bear The Odd Couple of Worship

Richard had known the Lord longer
He had been in the Bible and had come to understand **God's Nature**

There are a lot of attractive people in the world but what really matters to
a beautiful relationship is knowing the person and desiring what you know about
them...

LUST IS ASSOCIATED TO LOOKS
LOVE IS ASSOCIATED TO RELATIONSHIP

In an Earthly Relationship
Love is evident by appreciation

In the Heavenly Relationship
Love is evident by praise & worship

The More the Lord is Known and Understood, the more Attractive He becomes because
the Meaningful your Relationship has become...

A.) Praise, because Salvation is of the Lord vv. 12a

God's Creation is estranged from Him

Like a fractured marriage... the unfaithfulness begins with long before the physical
problems arise...

The Garden of Eden

Eve was unfaithful to the Lord when she began to entertain the temptation that was
offered to her (entertaining it is the sin)

James 1:12

Blessed (Happier) is the man who **endures** temptation; for when he has been examined, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone *with evil*. But each one is tempted when he is **drawn away** (from the relationship with the Lord) by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. Do not be deceived,

It's God who as Approached Us

John 6:44

"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him

Rather than ask someone if they are a Christian,
We need to ask people if they are IN CHRIST.

The World cannot Understand this

Turn to 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

Turn to 1 Corinthians 2:12-14

- #1 John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."
- #2 John 3:17 "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."
- #3 John 3:18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."
- #4 John 3:19 "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."

Jeremiah 31:3

The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."

'In Him'

Being 'In Him' is first of All;

#1 INDICATES A RADICAL TRANSFORMATION

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, *he is a new creation!*.....
(the) old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new
(and shall continue to be new).

That 'We' (the Jews)
Who first trusted in Christ
In Him 'You' (the Gentiles)
Also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel

- THE WORD OF TRUTH *meaning*

THE MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE... IT IS THE WORD OF TRUTH

- THE GOSPEL *meaning*

THE PREACHING OF THE GOOD NEWS

*The Word of Truth is the Gospel
of your salvation*

- OF YOUR SALVATION *meaning*

THE SAVING WORK OF GOD IN YOUR LIFE IS PERSONAL

Verse 12 We that first trusted (**a decision is implied**)

Trusted GRK 4276 proelpizo (pro-el-pid'-zo)
To hope in advance of something (the Jew awaiting Messiah)

Verse 13 You also Trusted (**a decision is implied**)

Verse 13 You Believed (**a decision is implied**)

If God has saved us before the worlds began

- And that's true

- Then Why the Call to Evangelize?

- Why is the Invitation given in the word to receive Christ?

If God Has saved us before the world's began

- And that's true

- Then why are those who have rejected Jesus solely responsible for being in hell of their own choosing?

On My Desk is an Apple Macintosh Computer

- It was thought of by Apple
- It was developed by Apple
- It was marketed by Apple
 - It was sold by Apple

But in the Engineering Process - the Design Mode

Apple decided to build into every computer the ability, that when challenged by certain situations... each computer could of select two different paths...

Now if computer #1 selects a path that takes it to Mac-Heaven
(Apple gets the Glory for having provided the Way there)

But if Computer #2 selects a path that takes it down to Mac-Hell
(Computer #2 is responsible for going down the wrong path)

God
Gets all the glory for your salvation

Man
Gets all the condemnation for having rejected the salvation

* **Salvation** GRK 4991 soteria (so-tay-ree'-ah)
The rescuing or being in to safety. The deliverance

Are all “believers” sealed?
Remember, not all believers are born again and going to heaven

It's Not Enough To Believe...

You may believe that Abraham Lincoln Lived...
But you're not trusting in Abraham Lincoln today for anything

You must #1	“Hear” (not what you want - but what it says)
You must #2	It must be the word of “truth” (That's the Gospel)
You must #3	“Your” Salvation is 100% Personal (Your Salvation)
You must #4	“Believed” meaning you have rested from self
You must #5	Be “Sealed” by the Holy Spirit

How can you know if you are sealed?

Romans 8:10-16

1 John 5:13

These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

Have You Observed a Changed Life..... That Brings Glory to God?

What does it mean to be sealed?

*	Sealed	GRK 4972 sphragizo (sfrag-id'-zo); To stamp with a signet ring or to personally emboss or mark) for security and preservation. To mark the genuineness of ownership
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In the ancient world wealthy purchasers would have their buyers sent out to various parts of the known world to **SECURE** a desired item or article for their owner

Once the item was found the **PRICE** was agreed upon and the buyer would take a kit that was made up of **A STRING, WAX AND SIGNET RING.**

Once the item was paid for it was **OWNED**

Once the item was sealed it was sealed for good until it **ARRIVED** before the owner. The owner would then break the seal and take it as his **PERSONAL POSSESSION.**

What Should Be Our Response

Ephesians 4:30

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

A Tribulation Example

Revelation 7:3

Saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."

*

Promise

GRK 1860 epaggelia (ep-ang-el-ee'-ah)

To make an announcement or pledge. To be given divine assurance

The (Announcement) Ring is in mind here.

The Ring of Engagement

It is the announcement of security, preservation, the mark of
genuine ownership

It is Pledge of Commitment
(*A desirable thing*)

It is a Pledge of Ownership
(*A desirable thing*)

If I we're engaged to a girl she would be set apart
"As my desire"

- She has been pledged all of my wealth
- She has been pledged all of my passions
- She has been pledged all of my love
- And she has been pledge all of my protection

The Sealing of the Believer is with a Promise

The Promise is the Holy Spirit

John 14:16

"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-- John 14:17 "the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. John 14:18 "I will not leave you orphans; **I will come to you.**

Turn to Luke 24:46-49 "The Promise"

(The Fact is, Jesus Lives inside your heart, by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit)
Jesus had to go away so he could be everywhere at once

Are sealed with the Holy Spirit - are saved?

Are you filled with the Holy Spirit - only the saved?

An Attitude of Prayer

Who are you living for tonight, tomorrow???

1 Corinthians 6:19

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.