

"THE CHURCH GIVING GLORY TO GOD"

Eph. 1:3-14

Chapter 3 - Paul is about to pray. First, he wants to say something about the secret in the church and the revelation, also his responsibility as a minister of that revelation.

V. 14 - He gets around to the prayer.

Well to study this prayer.

✓ V. 21 - He ends this prayer by saying to him (be glory in the church.)

— Read. 1:3-14 - (Three) times he ends by saying to the (praise of his glory)

He writing to the church; gives glory to God to the praise of his Glory in the church!

Three foundations of Praise. And these are three foundation stones of the church.

I. BLESS THE FATHER

v. 3 - "Blessed be God the Father."

Praise him for doing three things for us before the world began.

He uses some verbs, they are verbs of (planning, administration) God spent some time of administration. Praise be to God the Father for his planning.

1. He (picked us out) before the world begin.

vaf

V. 4 - "We were chosen in him."

"He picked us out."

Best place to learn (theology) is your family. Learn more there than in a seminary. Because we have a relationship with the Father, he is our father - that's theology.

(Family in Mo) went to Baptist Children's Home and picked out little girl, Brenda, 2 years old. We went and picked her out. Now you know how cruel kids can be when they find out some one is adopted, they reflect on and say things not nice. Prepared - Brenda when they tell you, you don't have a real mother or daddy, you tell them that your mother and daddy went to the orphanage and looked over the bunch and picked you out, that's the one we want. And you tell them that their parents had to take whatever they got and that you are better off than they are.

Overheard, her telling her friends one day - she said these folks came to the orphanage and I picked them out to be my parents.

O. K. now who picked out who?

In our (Christian) life the deeper we go the more mature we are, the more we understand that God picked us out.

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That's the best illustration of (predestination) I know.

2. (Marked us off.)

V. 2

Means horizon - put some boundaries in our lives.

Some time ago (a term) came on the scene ("spaced out"). Don't have a margin or boundary to your life - nothing has meaning.

God put boundaries in life. Meaning to life.

Expanse of stars - class against class - Jew - Arab - without meaning until God comes in.

(Young people) have a greater security in their lives when they have some boundaries. A few shalt not's and a few thou shalt's in their lives. Gives guidance.

Blessed be God and Father who hath blessed us by picking us out and marks us off.

3. He (graced us in the beloved) V. 6.

V. 6

No good English word to use.

Old Testament - great illustration.

(Ruth) - a Moabite shall not enter the congregation of the Lord forever. That's the law - the law does not change.

Remember when Ruth and Naomi came back to the land of bread - went out a Moabite

to the fields of Boaz to Glen. She had no right to be there.

She took a risk - Boaz took her as his wife.

How did she get there - (by grace!) Accepted in the beloved.

Before the world ever began we were accepted in the Father to the praise of his glory. Picked us out - marked us off - and graced us in the beloved.

Grace is everything that is new - fresh - acceptable. It is the opposite of everything that is stale, ready made.

Grace is "surprise" - by joy - unexpected - that is what God has done in our lives.

That is the way he ends this first stanza of hymn of praise.

II. BLESSED BE THE SON.

v. 7 v. 7 - Through redemption by his blood, we know what that means.

(Life) of the flesh is in the blood.

(Everytime) it says blood you substitute (life) What is meant to the Jew. That is what it means in the New Testament. Life for our sin.

He provided a ransom price.

Christ who came, lived, died on tree, bore our sins. Nothing more powerful.

Canada - parrie - home a sod house. Two old bachelers past 80 years old. They raised horses. (Filth) in dug out house, dirty. Trying to get by Preacher suggested they go out to horse coral and see the horses. Stood by post. They could not read. Just like a child, he told them about Jesus. How he came sinless - son of God. How he loved children, healed the sick, raised the dead, fed the poor, cared about people no matter how mean they were, and told them about the cross. Watched as tears run down their cheeks and dropped in the dust.

He thought of that hymn - "Down in the human heart, crushed by the tempter. Cords that are broken can vibrate once more."

The story of the cross.

It said King of the Franks, (Clovis) - 7 feet tall, Red hair giant. First missionary talk how on his visit. There was a roast pig and a goose before the King. He would pull the meat through his teeth and throw the bones on the floor - missionary said, can I tell you a story. He told about Jesus, how he came, lived, they took him and crucified him. It is said the King jumped to his feet and cried--would to God I had been there with a 1,000 of my franks. They never would have crucified him. (Cross has power)

V12 V. 12 Blessed be the God, the Father, and His Son - to the Glory of God in the church.

Then the third stanza of praise also ends also to the praise of his Glory.

Carver said it was the glory in his calling.

III. BLESSED BE THE GOD - THE HOLY SPIRIT.

V. 13

V. 13 - Who offered us salvation in our history. In our time and place in history.

We heard the Gospel of the Glory of God. What kind of Gospel. The Gospel of the Glory of God, the Gospel of Christ.

The Gospel of your salvation. Good news according to you. You heard and with the very faith with which you believed was of the Holy Spirit.

Offered us salvation when we heard and received,

Salvation is a glorious pilgrimage. (I am) converted. (Being) converted, (one day) changed into his glorious image.

All need to remember there is history in my life and your life. There is B. C. and A. D. Story of life begin with Christ.

He ends with Holy Spirit. He (sealed) us. V. 13B.

V. 14

V. 14 - "Earnest" means the same today, if its money - its part of the price - give somebody \$500 on a house. They keep that to show that you are in earnest, part of the same.

("Inheritance") What is that? Part of Heaven. God's will be done. Be able to

sing - Redemption Story.

"Working" in Heaven. Not lie on a pink cloud playing on a harp. Be bored after 10 minutes.

"Rest" - lay down for a thousand years or so. Not time like now, who wants to sleep through glory? Work there.

Paul, talk about Romans.

Hershey Davis tells us about Greek New Testament. Be eager to hear about it.

Work and study.

What is earnest of inheritance? (I think) it is a little bit of Heaven now.

These people that can't stand much preaching -- put up with a little bit at Christmas or Easter, singing, praying. If they can't stand it now, how are they going to stand it then?

I think the earnestness of our inheritance is a love for spiritual things.

If we don't have the earnestness, we don't have the Spirit. We don't have the Father - don't have the Son.

I believe God gives us a joy and thrill about spiritual things. Taste for it.

Are we sure we are ready for Heaven? Some people going to be most miserable

Things in Heaven - I never read about golf courses, Sunday newspapers, or a lot of things we spend time on.

He ends this stanza, as he ended the others - to "The Praise of His Glory".

Mission of the church is to glorify God by leading persons to know Jesus Christ in the power of The Holy Spirit.

That is the mission of the church, giving Glory to God in the church.

- Blessed be God the Father.
- Blessed be God the Son.
- Blessed be God the Holy Spirit.

In the church - and we bless him when we build up the fellowship. We glorify the church.

Granddaddy took 5 year old grandson to his father's funeral. Question about this and that. Cemetery as leaving saw man put some dirt in grave. Granddaddy, let's go back and stop them. Not let them do that. Explained how, that is the way it must be ^{today} and one day, God will come and uncover your Daddy and lift him out of that grave.

*God will take care + lift him with new Body, ~~that's right~~
Don't worry son!*

All this fits in the Glory of God.