

SERMON SERIES: *Walking In The Light*

SERMON TITLE: *Every Spiritual Blessing*

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 1

DATE: 6.20.21

BIG IDEA:

God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.

What are the spiritual blessings God offers?

#1 HOLY and without blame in his eyes

- A holy person is a person with moral purity. In other words, they are a person who has always done the right thing, at the right time, in the right way, for the right reasons.
- What really matters is if I am holy and without blame in God's eyes not human eyes because God determines my eternal destiny.
- Being holy and without fault in God's eyes frees you from:
 - The pursuit of human approval.
 - The fear of failure.
 - Straining and striving in order to make something of yourself. It allows you to live life in a relaxed way.

#2 ADOPTED as sons

- To be adopted into God's family means that God as your father is always:
 - Available to know intimately
 - Protecting you from things that would destroy you
 - Making sure all your physical, emotional, spiritual, and financial needs are met
 - Empowering you to become all that he created you to be
 - With his unlimited power, knowledge, and resources orchestrating all the events of your life to work together for your ultimate good.

#3 WISDOM and UNDERSTANDING

- The Bible however defines wisdom as applied knowledge. It is taking what can be known about the world and then applying it so that one lives a successful life.
- God is both the creator and perfecter of life and therefore has the wisdom we need to live a successful life.

#4 INHERITANCE

- God will give his children the world, but not the world in its current condition, but rather the world with everything in it restored to its intended function.

#5 The HOLY SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of promise that seals us and guarantees our inheritance.
 - When Paul says that the Ephesian believers were sealed with the Holy Spirit, he means that the Holy Spirit brands them as belonging to God.
 - The Holy Spirit guarantees the believer of their future inheritance in God's new world in two ways.
 - The Holy Spirit assures us of our future inheritance.
 - The Holy Spirit makes the objective reality that we are children of God, and therefore heirs of God who will receive the new world as our inheritance, real to our hearts.
 - The Holy Spirit tangibly brings God's promised future into our present experience.
 - The Holy Spirit freeing the believer from the power of sin is a down payment guaranteeing the larger payment of the believer being free from even the presence of sin in God's new world.

Why does God offer spiritual blessings?

It is in God's nature to love and to extend grace!

How does one take hold of the spiritual blessings God offers?

We receive spiritual blessings from God when we are “in Christ.”

- To be in Christ means to be united to Christ in his life, death, and resurrection through repentance and faith.
 - When we turn from our life of sin to Jesus as our Lord and Savior, his perfect life is counted as ours so that God views and treats us as if we did all the good things Jesus did and his death becomes ours so that God sees our sin completely paid for by Jesus’s blood and his resurrection becomes ours as God blesses us now with every spiritual blessing from above that will one day culminate with our bodily resurrection in God’s new world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Which spiritual blessing that God offers do you find most shocking? Which one are you most grateful for? Which one do you understand the most? Which one do you understand the least? Which one has the greatest effect on how you live?
2. Why is it important that God decided to bless us because it is in his nature to love and extend grace?
3. Why is it important that one takes hold of God’s spiritual blessings through repentance and faith? How would you define repentance and faith?
4. Most people in our world are attempting to be financially rich, influence rich, sexually rich, accomplishment rich, relationally rich or experience rich. Why does being spiritually rich trump all other forms of wealth?
5. Describe how the spiritually rich person speaks and acts in the world when they are making use of the wealth they have received in Christ.