



**Blessed With  
All Spiritual Blessings in Christ**

*Scripture Reading:*

**Ephesians 1: 1- 4**

# INTRODUCTION

- **Half of our salvation is VISIBLE (observable) because of the outward demonstration of the indwelling Life of Christ**
- **The “UNSEEN” half of our salvation is the foundation for our pre-planned good works**
  - **It is evaluated as “riches” – true wealth Eph 1:7, 2:7, 3:8**
  - **It is basic understanding of our salvation – even to new believers**
    - **I Cor 4:17-17 - imitate Paul by framing your mind on things above (unseen) - Col 3:2**

# INTRODUCTION

- The local church in 1st century Ephesus had received what Paul had taught about his “ways in Christ” – probably with more completeness than any other local church
  - 32x in Ephesian letter:
    - “In Christ”
    - “In Whom”
    - “In the Lord”, etc.

THE EPHESIAN  
BACKGROUND  
CONCERNING  
SPIRITUAL  
BLESSINGS IN  
CHRIST

- Paul's contact with Ephesus
  - Acts 18:19-21 - 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey
    - Paul "reasoned" in the synagogue
  - Acts 19: 8-10 – 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary journey
    - 3 months in the synagogue, over 2 yrs in the school of Tyrannus
  - Acts 20"17-38 – meeting the Ephesian elders at Miletus
    - Note vs 27: ALL God's counsel was taught by Paul

## 2. THE EPHESIAN BACKGROUND CONCERNING SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS IN CHRIST

- NT revelation addressed to the Ephesian Church
- Ephesians, I and II Timothy, (very probably I John), and the Revelation (cf Rev 2:1-7)
  - One of the 7 Churches commended for their stand against false apostles, but warned against the misuse of agape love:
    - “don’t love the world system, but love the brethren”

# Paul's Summary Statement Concerning His Ways in Christ: "Blessed with ALL Spiritual Blessings in Christ"

Ephesians was written to:

- The saints
- And faithful (dependable) ones in Christ Jesus – Eph 1: 1

Reminder of their blessed position in Christ – Eph 1:3

- Two NT words translated "blessed/ blessing"
- **Ma-kar-i-os** – to be happy; 50x in NT (6x correctly translated happy)
  - 9x in the Sermon on the Mount – Matt 5:3-11
  - "the Blessed Hope" = Titus 2:13
  - "Happy is he that does not judge himself..." – Rom 14:21-33
  - Unbelievers used this word concerning material things, "I am so blessed"

## Two NT words translated “blessed/ blessing” (continued from previous slide)

### “Eu-log-e-o”

- Verb 45x in NT, noun 8x “to speak well of”; “to say good things”
  - Used of God the Father 3x in NT:
    - II Cor 1:3-4 – in relation to mercy and comfort
    - I Pet 1:3 - in relation to regeneration
    - Eph 1:3 – in relation His speaking well of us in Christ
      - “By means of ALL spiritual blessing IN Christ in the heavenlies”
      - This is Paul’s introductory reminder of the totality of how He sees each believer in Christ

# CONCLUSION

- In Ps 103:1, David proclaims “Bless the Lord, Oh my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name”
- Today as grace-believers, we can bless the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for how **He speaks well of us, as He sees us seated in His Son**
- We need to grow in faithfulness to our father’s invitation to **rest and rejoice** in this visually unseen place of grace in Christ at the Father’s right hand.