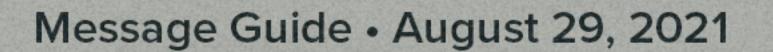
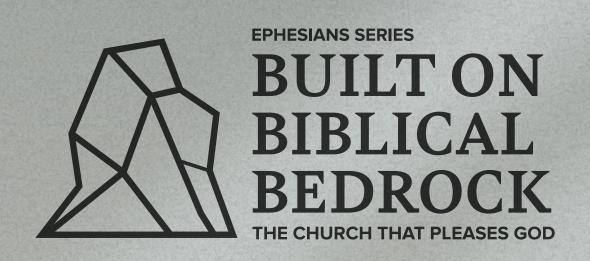


Ephesians 1:7-10









The Richness of Our Redemption in Christ

EPHESIANS 1:7-10

This passage is the second "in Him" from this four-part mini-series on Ephesians 1:3-14 (which is one long sentence in the original). Paul tells us how wonderful our salvation is and teaches us how to appreciate the magnitude of it. These are not theoretical, nor are these truths just to fill our heads! They can stabilize depressed believers, energize the burned out, and inspire those weary of personal sin.

It may be easier to remember these truths by framing them as three common questions that frequently occur in our minds about salvation:

- 1. THE BLESSINGS OF GOD'S SALVATION: "What does it mean for me to be 'saved'?" (Ephesians 1:7a)
 - a. God has redeemed me forever through Christ's death.
 And the proof of redemption is righteousness.
 1 Peter 2:24 He himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.
 - b. God has forgiven my spiritual failures, once and for all time. It isn't just a transaction, but a transfer of kingdom; not just a change of status but a change of residence.
 - Colossians 1:13-14 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
- 2. THE SOURCE OF GOD'S SALVATION: "Why did God save me in the first place?" (Ephesians 1:7b-8)
 - a. God saved us out of the riches of His grace that He lavished on us. Ephesians 2:7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.



b. Throughout Ephesians the richness of God and His grace is a prominent idea pointing to the lavish giving of blessings to us in Christ (Ephesians 1:7, 18; 2:7; 3:8, 16). And "lavish", with its connotations of extravagance makes clear that our redemption is all of grace. Words cannot capture the incredible nature of grace.

3. THE AGENDA OF GOD'S SALVATION: "What is God's ultimate plan for everything?" (Ephesians 1:9-10)

a. At the end of earth's history, God will gather believers in the Millennial Kingdom – "the fullness of time" – and unite the universe under the rule of Jesus.

Philippians 2:10-11 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Final Thoughts

The richness of our redemption in Christ calls us to joy and worship: to live in the joy of worship, and to serve with the joy of worship. In the midst of challenging times globally and personally, God has equipped us to not only survive but thrive.

God didn't save you so He could give you the minimum; He saved you to give His best on both sides of eternity. It took the sacrifice of the Beloved to save you, and the same Person now walks with you and sustains you. That's the richness of our redemption in Christ!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Some leaders use guilt to control and motivate people. Why is grace a better motivator to living the Christian life?
- 2. If God forgives all our sins upon salvation once and for all time, why do we need to confess our sins?
- 3. If you knew for the first time how history really ends, will it significantly change how you live today? In what beneficial ways?
- 4. As you pray together, let each start with thanksgiving for how God has changed him/her since becoming a believer. Then end your prayer with a plea to overcome areas of weakness by God's enabling grace.

Download the study guide: **bit.ly/EphesiansStudyGuides**

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2 Corinthians 9:7

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GGEx Leader: Pastor Emerson Manaloto Zoom: bit.ly/FamilyGGEx

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