

Studies in Ephesians 1

Memory Verse: **Ephesians 1:7** In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.

1) Christian is accepted in God (Ephesians 1:1-)

- a) **(Eph 1:1)** Paul's letter is addressed to the "saints the faithful" these two terms saints and faithful. The term "*saints*" is used to describe their lives as being physically pure, morally blameless and consecrated to the Lord Jesus. Paul uses the word **saints 9 times** in the book of Ephesians, These *saints* are alive and not dead, though once dead in their sins and trespasses and sins are made alive in Christ...(Col 2:13)
- b) **(Eph 1:3)** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." God the Father has made us rich in Jesus Christ! When you were born again into God's family, you were born rich. Through Christ, you share in the riches of God's grace ([Eph 1:7](#); [Eph 2:7](#)), God's glory ([Eph 1:18](#); [Eph 3:16](#)), God's mercy ([Eph 2:4](#)), and "the unsearchable riches of Christ" ([Eph 3:8](#)). Our Heavenly Father is not poor; He is rich — and He has made us rich in His Son. (Warren Wiersbe)
- c) **(Eph 1:4-5)** Paul writes that we were chosen before the foundation of the world. God's plan to redeem man from the disobedience of our lives was in place before Genesis 1:1 the creation of the world. When a sinner is saved is chosen to be *holy* and *blameless* and is *predestined* to spend eternity in Heaven as a child of God. *Predestination* is the act of pre-determining or *foreordaining* an act or event. God never chose one sinner over another to be saved. (2 Peter 3:9, Hebrews 2:9, John 3:16, Romans 11:32) God has called all who will come to Him through Christ Jesus that we should be Holy and blameless before Him in love,
- What does it mean to be "holy"? As a disciple of Jesus, we are to live lives set apart from the world. In Ephesus was the pagan temple of Diana. Those pagan believers we involved worship which included. The silversmiths of Ephesus carried on a lucrative business by the forging and sale of images of this goddess (Acts 19:23 ff.). To be set apart (Holy) is to live a separate life from the world. "This world is not our home we are just traveling through". Like an astronaut who can not exist in space without a protective suit as a believer, we cannot exist in this world without the indwelling protection of the Holy Spirit. It is the power of God's protection from the world. (Col 2:12)
- d) **(Eph 1:7-8)** Our redemption is only by the blood of Jesus and His sacrifice on the cross of Calvary. As a result of the atoning blood of Jesus, we have the forgiveness of sin. There is only one way to salvation and it is the way of Christ. The redemption of Christ is only by the "grace" of God. Grace is not earned, it is given by God to us because of His love for mankind. In v.2 Paul puts *grace* before *peace*. We can only have real peace in our life when we have experienced the grace of God. It because of the *grace of God* we become *adoptive children and heirs of the kingdom*. (John 1:12-13)



- e) **(Eph 8-14)** In the book of Ephesians, Paul uses the words ***in Christ Jesus*** twenty-seven times that describes a believer's position in Christ. God has made known the mystery of His will concerning Christ Jesus in and through His Word. This has been revealed in the “***fullness of time***” or the dispensation. That is to say at just the right time. Everything is in God's timing. This mystery is revealed through Jesus by the Holy Spirit. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit reveals to our spirit the deeper and richer blessing of God. As a believer, we have “***spiritual revelation***” but we are *sealed by the blood* Jesus who paid for our entrance into eternal life.