

GOD'S EXCELLENT GRACE!

Ephesians 1:3-14

We need to realize and revel in God's excellent grace!

I. REALIZE GOD'S GRACE

- He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing (3)

A. SELECTION BY THE FATHER (4-6)

1. The Particulars: God chose us who are saints (4) > Election
2. The Plan: God's plan was to adopt (5)
3. The Provision: Grace was freely bestowed on us by Christ (6)

B. SALVATION THROUGH CHRIST (7-12)

1. "In Him" we have guilt removed (7a)
- See Isaiah 53:6 and Colossians 1:13-14
2. "In Him" we have grace revealed (7b-10)
3. "In Him" we are granted rights (11-12)

C. SEALING BY THE HOLY SPIRIT (13-14)

1. The Documentation: "Sealed" (13)
- See also Romans 8:9, I Corinthians 6:19-20 and I John 4:4
2. The Deposit: The promise, pledge, guarantee of earnest (14)
- See Romans 8:11

II. REVEL IN GOD'S GRACE

A. OUR Demeanor

1. We dig deep and develop a system to explain our salvation
2. We debate diligently about such matters as election (4) and predestination (5, 11)

B. OUR DANGER

1. Frustration rather than fascination
2. Man's logic overshadows God's love
- Note Isaiah 55:8-9
3. Diminishing the goodness of God
4. We spend so much time on the record that we neglect the reveling!

C. OUR DUTY

- Adoration not explanation

1. Bless God (3)
2. Praise God (11-12)
3. Glorify God (6, 12, 14)
 - a. To the praise of the glory of His grace
 - b. Expanded Translation: Adoring recognition (praise) of the manifested excellence (glory) of God's favor to the underserving (grace).

We need to realize and revel in the grace of God!

- Our priority should be:

1. God's excellent grace (reveling)
2. Not God's explainable grace (the record)

The biggest celebration of the day is not the Super Bowl ... It is a super Savior!

- It is not about partying ... its all about praising!