

**Who Do You Think You Are?**

**Ephesians 1:1-14**

# **Ephesians 1:1-3**

**Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

# Ephesians

- **“Our greatest fear should not be of failure but of succeeding at things in life that don’t really matter.” – Francis Chan**
- **Ephesians is about what really matters.**
- **Paul, “an ambassador in chains” (6:20), prison letter, 61-63 A.D. To Ephesus (Acts 19-20) 54 A.D.**
- **Theme: “Unity in Christ” or “What all Christians share in common.”**

# **What does it mean to be saved?**

- God the Father planned your salvation before the world was created.**
- Christ the Son lavished on you his great love to redeem you.**
- The Holy Spirit is at work in you to secure God's salvation for you.**

**1. God the Father planned your salvation before the world was created.**

**“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved” (Eph. 1:3-6).**

# **God determined your true potential in eternity past**

- The source (heaven), the choice (chosen in Christ), the end result (adoption into God's family), and the means (grace through faith) were all decided by the Father before we were born, before the world was created.**
- You have a great destiny. Go out and claim it!**
- Succeed first in the thing that matters the most.**

**2. Christ the Son lavished on you his great love to redeem you.**

**“In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth” (Eph. 1:7-10).**

# **What does the love of Christ mean to you?**

- Abstract concept or personal possession?**
- The common value of eternity is extreme love, gratitude, and devotion to Christ.**
- Your personal love for Christ is a clear indication of how well prepared you are for eternity.**



### **3. The Holy Spirit is at work in you to secure God's salvation for you.**

**“In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory” (Eph. 1:11-12).**

**“The riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints” (Eph. 1:18).**

# Quotation from Witness Lee

**“He desires to inherit all that He has wrought into us of Himself. Therefore, whatever God has wrought into us of Himself becomes His inheritance... God will work within us to make us worthy, precious, and valuable, a unique treasure in the universe as an inheritance for Him... God is the treasure, and He is working Himself as the treasure into us that we may become a treasure to Him.”**

### **3. The Holy Spirit is at work in you to secure God's salvation for you.**

**“In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory” (Eph. 1:13-14).**

# **Your Life in God**

- **God has determined your potential since before the world was created.**
- **Christ has redeemed you so that you may experience the divine potential.**
- **The Spirit is at work in you, marking and transforming you, that you may reach your true divine potential in Christ.**