

# L22 | Ephesians | "Accepted in The Beloved" | Eph. 1:3-6

## I. Intro/Review:

- Spiritual Blessings rooted in Christ and in the heavenly places
  - Established in God's eternal counsel
    - Chose us (of) in Christ (through) before the foundation of the world to (to) be holy and without blame
    - Predestinated us (of) unto the adoption of children (to) by Jesus Christ (through)
  - According to the good pleasure of His will
    - Chose to (in Christ)
    - Predestinated to (by Christ)

## II. Preview:

- To the Praise of the Glory of His Grace
- Made us Accepted in the Beloved

## III. Sermon:

{:6} - **"to the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved."**

- The good pleasure of God's will is the umbrella of God's choosing and predestination, as well as, the means (in, by, through) the Lord Jesus Christ, and the result.
  - **"will"** - definition
    - That faculty of the mind by which we determine either to do or forbear an action; the faculty which is exercised in deciding, among two or more objects, which we shall embrace or pursue. The will is directed or influenced by the judgment. The understanding or reason compares different objects, which operate as motives; the judgment determines which is preferable, and the will decides which to pursue.
- **"to the praise of the glory of His grace"**
  - The good pleasure of God's will is to the praise of the glory of His grace
  - Isn't this self-centered?
    - God's self-center is selfless - it is His grace
  - His grace isn't simply to justify you, but to "bless you with all spiritual blessings".
  - One of the results and outcomes of the good pleasure of His will
    - **"to the praise"** - commendation bestowed on a person for his personal virtues or

worthy actions, on meritorious actions themselves, or on any thing valuable

- Rom. 2:29 - "whose praise is not of me, but of God."
- Rom. 13:3 - "do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:"
- 1 Cor. 4:5 - "and then shall every man have praise of God."
- 2 Cor. 8:18 - "whose praise is in the gospel"
- Eph. 1:14 - "that we should be to the praise of His glory,"
- Php. 1:11 - "unto the glory and praise of God."
- Php. 4:8 - "if there be any praise,"
- 1 Pet. 1:7 - "might be found unto praise and honour and glory..."
  
- Praise
  - Psalm 7:17 - "according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the LORD most high."
  - Psalm 9:1 - "with my whole heart"
  - Psalm 9:2 - "to thy name"
  - Psalm 21:13 - "thy power"
  - Psalm 22:26 - "the meek shall eat and be satisfied: they shall praise the LORD that seek him: your heart shall live for ever."
  - Psalm 33:1 - "for praise is comely for the upright."
  - Psalm 34:1 - "his praise shall continually be in my mouth."
  - Psalm 42:5 - "for the help of his countenance."
  - Psalm 56:4 - "his word"
  - Psalm 65:1 - "Praise waiteth for thee, O God, in Sion:"
  - Psalm 69:34 - "Let the heaven and the earth praise him, the seas, and every thing that moveth therein."
  - Psalm 107:8 - "his goodness"
  
- **"of the glory of His grace"**
  - **"His grace"** - not redemptive grace, but grace to have a will which chooses to have creatures before Him holy and without blame before Him in love with all adoptive blessings.
  - **"glory"** - splendor, flourishing, magnificence (experience)
  
- **"wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved."**
  - **"wherein"** - His grace
  - **"He hath made us accepted"** -
    - "made us accepted"
      - "highly favoured" - Luk. 1:28
        - Why was Mary highly favoured?
        - Col. 1:27
        - 1 Tim. 3:16
      - Luke 2:52 - "and in favour with God and man."

- The highest favour, the greatest acceptance we could possess God has a will for us to be blessed with.
- **"in the beloved."**
  - Such high favour of His grace is given to "the beloved."
  - Matt. 3:17, 12:18, 17:5; Luk. 20:13; 2 Pet. 1:17
  - Jn. 14:21
  - Jn. 17:24-26
  
  - Rom. 1:7, 12:19
  - Col. 3:12 - "holy and beloved"
  - 1 The. 1:4 - "brethren beloved"
  - 2 The. 2:13 - "brethren beloved of the Lord"
  
  - 1 Jn. 3:2, 21, 4:1, 7, 11

#### **IV. Conclusion:**

- How do we get "in the beloved", thus accepted, thus blessed with all spiritual blessings of which He choose and predestinated in Christ?
- REDEMPTION