

# L17 | Ephesians | Before Him In Love Pt. 2 | Eph. 1:3-6

## I. Intro/Review:

- God is holy and just
  - Christ is holy and just
  - Created after God holy and righteous
- 1 Thessalonians 5:23 - **sanctify wholly** - "spirit, soul, body"
  - 3 Tenses of Salvation
    - Saved from the debt of sin - unholy, unrighteous
    - Being saved from the power of sin - unholy, unrighteous
    - Will be saved from the presence of sin - unholy, unrighteous
  - 1. "spirit" - Eph. 2:1ff (quicken when dead)
  - 2. "soul" - Rom. 12:1ff (renewing of the mind)
    - "carnal body with sin in it" (now) - Rom. 8:5ff (quicken your mortal body - the Spirit)
  - 3. "spiritual body" - (future) - 1 Cor. 15; Php. 3 (new body)
- 1. **Operation new creature** - "holy and beloved" (sanctified and called to be saints)
  - Redemption - Romans 3-5
  - Baptism/Circumcision - Romans 6, Col. 2:10-15
  - God's preparation, purify us unto every good work - 2 Tim. 2:19-21
- 2. **Perfecting Holiness** - Possessing your vessel in sanctification
  - **Ephesians 5:25-27** - sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such things; but that it should be holy and without blemish.
  - **1 Thessalonians 4:1-9** - called with a holy calling, made holy, to perfect holiness
  - Titus 2:11ff11-15

## II. Preview:

- Before Him
- In Love

## III. Sermon:

{:4} - "according as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love:"

- "before Him"

- **2 Cor. 2:17** - "For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the **sight of God** speak we in Christ."
  - 2 Cor. 12:19
  - Right now - the present time
- **Col. 1:22** - "In the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in His sight:"
  - **Jude 1:24** - "before the presence of His glory"
  - "to present...in His sight:" - future, time to come
- The opposite of "holy and without blame before Him"
  - 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 - "...who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power;"
  - Can never be away from God, but can be eternally destroyed "from" His presence, thus we need to be "holy and without blame".
- "in love"
  - Obs. #1 - Not "by love" although that's true, but "in love" - love is the provision and/or means by which we will be "holy and without blame before Him"
  - Obs. #2 - The description of the final and complete work of the Father will not simply be holy and without blame by love, but to be before Him holy and without blame in love, thus describing the finished work of the believer of His finished work of redemption and description of our relationship eternally with Him.
  - Obs. #3 - "in love" is not at the compromise of His holiness, but because and to His holiness. True and godly love does not permit evil, but "thinketh no evil" (1 Cor. 13:5), "rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;" (1 Cor. 13:6)
  - Examine some texts that connect not our love to one another which is derivative of this, but connect God and love.

### God is Love

- **1 John 4:7** - "Beloved, let us love one another: **for love is of God**; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God."
- **1 John 4:8** - "He that loveth not knoweth not God; **for God is love.**"

### God's Love/God Manifested

- **Love of the Creator**
  - Matthew 5:43-48
    - Not just loving them that love
    - Love enemies
    - Rain on the just and unjust; sun on the evil and good
- **The Great Love of God (Eph. 2)**

- **1 John 4:9** - "In this was **manifested the love of God toward us**, because that God sent His only begotten Son in to the world, that we might live through Him."
  - John 3:16
- **1 John 4:10** - "**Herein is love**, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent **His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**"
  - Romans 5:6 - "without strength" & "ungodly"
  - Romans 5:8 - "sinners"
  - Romans 5:10 - "enemies"
- His love is manifested in providing for us to be "holy and without blame before Him"
- Thus to possess "eternal life" - to "know Him".
- In Love (much more) - Romans 5
  - In, by, through Christ
    - **John 15:27** - "For the Father Himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God."
      - I came out from God (Jn. 1:1 - in the beginning, before the beginning)
  - Love to Glory (before the foundation of the world, my glory, be with me where I am)
    - **John 17:24** - "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world."
      - "**behold my glory**"
        - The Glory of the Family
          - The love and glory experienced between the Father, Son, and Spirit
          - John 17:1-5
        - The Glory of the Inheritance
          - appointed heir of all things as the Son of the Father, given all things
        - Governmental glory

#### IV. Conclusion:

- Adoption is God's provision in Christ that will grant such spiritual blessings in Him.
- Adoption dependent upon justification, goes beyond justification to participate in God's purpose in Christ concerning His family.

- In order to be "in love" we are made accepted in the beloved.