
IN CHRIST
MADE NEW,
MADE ONE
A SERIES IN EPHESIANS

Chosen Before the Beginning

Ephesians 1:3–6

Chosen • Adopted • Favored

EPHESIANS 1:3 — NASB 2020

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

EPHESIANS 1:4 — NASB 2020

just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love

EPHESIANS 1:5–6 — NASB 2020

He predestined us to adoption as sons and daughters through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He favored us in the Beloved.

BIG IDEA

Before creation, God purposed in Christ to make a holy people and welcome us into His family for His glory.

(Eph. 1:3–6)

1. CHOSEN IN CHRIST

Chosen in Him before creation.

Chosen for holiness, not because of it.

(Eph. 1:4; Deut. 7:6–8)

CHOSEN FOR WHAT?

HOLY — Set apart for God.

BLAMELESS — A life being transformed.

GRACE — The source, not the reward.

(Eph. 1:4; 4:22–24; Gal. 5:16–26)

2. PREDESTINED FOR ADOPTION

God’s purpose is not merely a category.
It is a family: sons and daughters
With and through Jesus Christ.

(Eph. 1:5; Rom. 8:15–17)

MYSTERY AND CERTAINTY

God is sovereign,
We are called to repent and believe.
His revealed Word calls for our response.

(Acts 2:23; Deut. 29:29; Acts 17:30)

ADOPTION — YOU BELONG

Not merely forgiven: welcomed.

Not merely a new status: a new family.

Access to the Father; care and inheritance.

(Rom. 8:15–23; Eph. 1:18; Luke 15:20–24)

3. TO THE PRAISE OF HIS GRACE

The Father chooses and adopts.
The Son redeems. The Spirit seals.
All to the praise of His glory.

(Eph. 1:6, 12, 14)

FAVORED IN THE BELOVED

Grace is received, not achieved.
Grace changes how we forgive
and welcome one another.

(Eph. 1:6; Philem. 17–19; Titus 2:11–14)

THE TAKEAWAY

1. **RECEIVE GRACE** — Confess your failure; stop living in shame.

When you fail this week, confess it, receive His forgiveness, and move forward in grace rather than hiding in shame.

Eph. 1:6; Rom. 8:1; 1 John 1:9

THE TAKEAWAY

2. **PRACTICE HOLINESS** — Change one choice, habit, or attitude this week.

Tell the truth when lying would be easier. Apologize / admit wrong instead of defending yourself. Turn away from a temptation you've been entertaining.

Eph. 1:4; 4:22–25; Gal. 5:16

THE TAKEAWAY

3. **LIVE LIKE FAMILY** — Reach out, invite, encourage, or forgive someone.

Invite someone to lunch, sit with someone who's alone, or reach out to someone who's drifted away. Don't just say the church is a family; act like it.

Eph. 1:5; 2:19; 4:32; Rom. 12:13

MADE NEW. MADE ONE.

Don’t merely debate grace. Display it.
Don’t merely discuss holiness. Pursue it.
Love one another as God’s family.

(Eph. 1:3–6; 4:1–3)

RESOURCES / BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Election and Providence

God has a plan (decree) and purpose, for His glory, for all of creation, including humanity, established before the foundation of the world (Ps. 33:10-11, 115:3; Eph. 1:11; 2:20; Heb. 6:17). God by grace and mercy, has elected to give some individuals every spiritual blessing in Christ (Eph. 1:3-4; 2 Thess. 2:13-14). For some people, the basis of His election is entirely upon His purposes (Gen. 12:1-3; Acts 9:3-16; Gal. 1:15). For others His choice is the result of their grace-enabled decision to receive His freely offered gift of salvation in Jesus Christ (John 3:16-18; Acts 16:13-15; 16:30-31). In all cases He directs events towards His purposes (Job 1:12, 2:6; Isa. 44:25). Salvation is never according to human goodness, human merit, or any works done to earn salvation (Eph. 1:5; 2:8-9; 2 Tim. 1:9). All others will be left in their unbelieving state and condemned (Acts 13:46; Rev. 13:8). In His sovereignty and gracious wisdom, God rules creation to secure the accomplishment of His divine purpose with the goal of the glory and praise of God (Eph. 1:6), this extends to every event (Matt. 10:29-31; Prov. 16:33), to good deeds (Phil. 2:13), and to evil deeds which God limits, frustrates, and works among for good (Gen. 50:20; Ps. 33:11; 76:10; Isa. 19:3). The sin and evil that are done are ultimately punished, as well as lovingly turned for the sanctifying good of God's people (Gen. 50:20; 2 Cor. 12:7-10; Phil. 1:12; 1 Thess. 5:3; 2 Pet. 2:9, 3:7). He is at war with evil and is overcoming it with good until the day of judgment (Gen 3:15; Matt. 12:29; Rom. 16:20; Heb. 2:14-15). God is not the author or approver of evil or sin (Isa. 6:3-5; Heb. 4:15; James 1:13; 1 John 2:16-17), evil and suffering are in some part the result of God giving real choice to moral agents who are personally responsible for their choices (Jer. 17:10; Rom. 2:5-6). God will ultimately and absolutely carry out this eternal plan (Isa. 46:10) despite the sinful rebellion of His creation (Gen. 50:20; Neh. 4:15).