

3/27/22

The Holy Spirit And Salvation
Eph. 1:13-14

Paul has declared that the spiritual blessings of the believer are through the Father and the Son Jesus, as part of the wealth of the believer.

1. The Father is indicated. vs. 3-6
2. The Son follows. vs. 7-12

Paul now indicates the Holy Spirit's part. vs. 13-14

1. Each person of the Trinity is involved in salvation and praised for their part. vs. 6a, 12, 14b
2. Remember this is one long sentence. vs. 3-14

We come to the fourth blessing associated with the Holy Spirit in the doctrine of salvation, consisting of:

- I. The illumination of the Holy Spirit. vs. 13a-d
- II. The identification of the Holy Spirit. vs. 13e-14a
- III. The admiration of the Holy Spirit. vs. 14b

I. The illumination of the Holy Spirit. vs. 13a-d

- A. The apostle Paul connected Jesus with the work of the Holy Spirit, regeneration. vs. 13a
* "In Him you also *trusted*."
 1. The phrase "In Him" refers to Jesus, who the Ephesians had trusted to save them.

- a. The word *trusted* in italic indicates it is not present in the Greek.
 - b. But since Paul is building on the previous verse, "we who first trusted in Christ", it is implied, indicative of the illumination, conviction and repentance of the Ephesians.
2. The reference to "you" is interpreted by some to indicate the Gentiles, in contrast to "we" of the previous verse for Jews.
 - a. But if that were the intended distinction, then it would indicate "we", the Jewish Christians alone, should be to the praise of His glory, which could not be. vs. 12
 - b. And "you" the Gentiles, would also indicate the only ones to be sealed with the Spirit, which is untrue. vs. 13
 - c. The reality is both apply to Jew and Gentile, otherwise it would contradict the theme of the letter, one in Christ Jesus.
 - 1) Remember the phrase in verse 12, first trusted "proelpizo" is a compound word, they put their hope in Jesus before the Ephesians.
 - 2) A participle perfect active, literally, "having first put hope" in Jesus, indicating confident hope, the Ephesian also had trusted in Jesus through the Holy Spirit.

- B.** The apostle Paul connected their trust in Jesus after hearing the gospel proclamation. vs. 13b-c
 * “after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.”
1. The order of their regeneration was clear.
 - a. The Ephesian got saved and trusted Jesus as their Lord and Savior after they heard, an aorist participle, literally “having heard” the gospel preached, not before.
 - 1) “How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?” Rom. 10:14
 - 2) “And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our report?” Rom. 10:15-16
 - 3) “So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Rom. 10-17
 - b. This is clear by “the word of truth”.
 - 1) The phrase literally says, “the word of “the truth”, the article is present indicating a specific truth.

- 2) Truth “*aeltheia*”, means what is true in any matter under consideration, in this case God’s Divine revelation of truth about their lost condition to be saved.
2. The Divine “word of the truth” they embrace personally is interpreted by the phrase “the gospel of your salvation”.
 - a. The word gospel “*euaggelion*”, means good news or glad tidings.
 * The word appears 77 times in the New Testament.
 - b. The phrase, “your salvation” indicates the power of the gospel.
 - 1) They possessed the gift of their salvation, having been convicted of sins by the word and the Spirit.
 - 3) They had agreed with God of their guilt and sin and repented, asking forgiveness of their sins.

Illustration

Regeneration is like having night vision!

Application

1. I never cease to be amazed at the power of the gospel through the Holy Spirit to illuminate, convict and save a person.
 - a. Regardless of the sins committed.
 - b. Regardless of the depraved heart of man.
 - c. Regardless of the destruction that sin has brought about.

- 1) “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.” Rom. 1:16-17
 - 2) “For our **gospel** did not come to you in word only, but also in **power**, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.” 1Thess. 1:5
2. The source of the regeneration has never been by hearing pagan religions.
- a. No sinner has ever been saved by religion.
 - 1) Religion is not a step towards God, but rather a step away from God.
 - 2) Religion blinds sinners from the truth of God, as being the only truth about God.
 - 3) Religion deceives sinners more by adding, taking away and making their dogmas of equal authority with the word of God.
 - b. No sinner has ever been saved reading or hearing about intellectual books of man.
 - 1) Be it philosophy or poetry.
 - 2) Be it by psychology or anthropology.
 - * “Beware lest anyone cheat you through **philosophy** and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.” Col. 2:8

3. The mayor problem today in the church is that Pastors and leaders are focusing on community and unity at the expense of the proclamation of the gospel to repent from sin by the power of the gospel and doctrine, have become like politicians.
 - a. This is due to the Political Correctness inside the church, no one wants to say anything that will offend or negative things from the pulpit.
 - b. Sermons are very positive, even when the text is a negative warning, only the positive side is emphasized, being disloyal to God and being treacherous to the people of God.
 - 1) God said to Jeremiah, “I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in My name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ “How long will *this* be in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies? Indeed *they are* prophets of the deceit of their own heart, who try to make My people forget My name by their dreams which everyone tells his neighbor, as their fathers forgot My name for Baal. The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; And he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What *is* the chaff to the wheat?” says the LORD. *Is* not My word like a fire?” says the LORD, “And like a hammer *that* breaks the rock in pieces?” Jer. 23:25-29
 - 2) Paul told the Corinthians, “And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring

to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching *were* not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.’ 1Cor. 2:1-5

3. The strategy of many Pastors and leaders today is they are depending on a liberal progressive, non-threatening and highly organized, commercialized method through marketing, technology networking and high visibility, more than the power of the Holy Spirit to grow the church.

- a. They are creating carnal communities.
- b. They are catering to the flesh of people.
- c. They are carnal themselves and using carnal means to motivate carnal people to accomplish their carnal vision for their ministry by begging for money constantly.

- 1) They are creative and clever, “Woe to the rebellious children,” says the LORD, “Who take counsel, but not of Me, And who devise plans, but not of My **Spirit**, That they may add sin to sin.” Is. 30:1
- 2) Jesus builds His church, “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will **build** My **church**, and the gates of

Hades shall not prevail against it.” Matt. 16:18

- 3) The early church believed this simple truth, “So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.” Acts 2:46-47

The illumination of the Holy Spirit regenerates sinners into believers!

II. **The identification of the Holy Spirit. vs. 13e-14a**

- A. The apostle Paul revealed the consequences of salvation by the Holy Spirit, sanctification. vs. 13-e
 - * “in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.”
 - 1. The person providing for sanctification is indicated “In whom”, referring to Jesus.
 - a. Jesus is the vital link to the Holy Spirit work of sanctifying believers.
 - 1) The Father made the salvation plan for a sinner to be set apart for God.
 - 2) The Son was the channel for salvation, that a person be able to be set apart for God.

- 3) The Holy Spirit is the agent for salvation to carry out the setting apart for God.
- b. Jesus having been believed on by the Ephesians was according to what the Scriptures declared about Jesus.
 - 1) He was the Son of God, Eternal.
 - 2) He was the Son of Man, through the Incarnation.
 - 3) He was the Lamb of God, the sin and wrath bearer for all sinners in the whole world.
 - 5) He is the only mediator between God and man, able to forgive sin, justify and reconcile man to God.
2. The result of having believed in Jesus was that they were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, the sanctifier.
 - a. The word for seal “sphragizo”, means to set a mark or stamp. 2Cor. 1:22
 - 1) It was used to indicate ownership.
 - 2) It was used to indicate something genuine, the wax seal being unbroken.
 - 3) It is used for the seal Rome placed on the tomb of Jesus and Paul’s scars. Matt. 27:66; Gal. 6:17
 - b. The believers having believed and repented received the Holy Spirit.
 - 1) The Holy Spirit comes into the body of a believer, becoming the temple of the Spirit. 1Cor. 6:19

- 2) The Holy Spirit illuminates a believer to understand the things of God. 1Cor. 2:9-16
 - 3) The Holy Spirit transforms a believer into the image of Christ from glory to glory. 2Cor. 3:18
 - * “But you are **not** in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does **not** have the Spirit of Christ, he is **not His.**” Rom. 8:9
 - 4) The seal is not the baptism of the Spirit nor water baptism!
 - c. The promise of the Holy Spirit was prophetic.
 - 1) The prophet Joel prophesied the two-fold promise of the Holy Spirit, to the church at Pentecost and Israel during the Great Tribulation. Joel 2:28
 - 2) Jesus indicated the efficiency and effectiveness of the Holy Spirit. Jn. 7:37-39
 - 3) The promise is of the Father. Lk. 24:49; Acts 1:4
 - 4) Peter identified its fulfillment at Pentecost. Acts 2:16:21; Gal. 3:16
- B.** The apostle Paul revealed the assurance of salvation by the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit until our glorification. vs. 14a

1. The Holy Spirit is indicated to be the guarantee of our inheritance.
 - * “who is the guarantee of our inheritance.”
 - a. The word guarantee “arrabon”, means a pledge or down payment.
 - 1) When you put a down payment, you are telling the person you are sincere in purchasing the object.
 - 2) The partial payment or advance installment is evidence you will return to complete the transaction.
 - * “Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us *is* God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.” 2Cor. 1:22; 5:5
 - b. The word inheritance “kleronomia”, means the eternal blessedness of all we are to receive.
 - 1) The seal of the Holy Spirit is but a fraction of the future endowment.
 - 2) The emphasis is on our future state of blessedness, “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.” Rom. 8:16-17
 - 3) Roman law legally allowed a person to be adopted and given the position of a

- natural born son, in place of the natural son, and to inherit everything.
2. The Holy Spirit is a foretaste and assurance at our death or the coming of Jesus for His church to receive our glorification.
 - * “until the redemption of the purchased possession.”
 - a. The redemption in context is not the same as in verse seven, redemption through the blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins and sanctification.
 - 1) The context of the word redemption “apolutrosis”, in verse 7 is a releasing affected by payment with deliverance from the penalty of sin. vs. 7
 - 2) The context of this verse, redemption “apolutrosis” refers to the final ransoming, releasing of our spirit from our body to heaven to be present with Jesus in our glorified bodies.
 - b. The purchased possession is our spirit.
 - 1) We are spirit being, our bodies are the vehicle to express ourselves.
 - 2) The instant you and I breath our last breath, as believers, immediately we are present with Jesus. 2Cor. 5:1-8
 - 3) Our bodies go to the grave, glorified at the rapture. 1Thess. 4:16-17

Illustration

A person has and enjoys present benefits as an heir to the family before the death of the deceased and equally will receive the total inheritance after death.

* The Holy Spirit is like a Divine courier entrusted and responsible to deliver the saints to Jesus!

Application

1. The sealing with the Holy Spirit is used often to prove that a believer cannot turn away from Christ, at the expense of every warning.

a. The late Pastor Chuck Smith, founder and leader of Calvary Chapel believed and taught for 48 years, from December of 1965 till October of 2013, that both predestination and free-will are presented throughout the Scriptures, as part of the whole council of God, complements not contradictions.

* This being one of the distinctives of Calvary Chapel on salvation!

b. Chuck stated, “We neither are Five-Point Calvinists nor are we of Arminius. We do believe in the security of the believer. We don’t believe that you can lose your salvation because you lost your temper or told a lie and, as a result, need to go forward next Sunday night to repent and get resaved. We believe in the security of the believer, but we also believe in the “perseverance of the saints.” We don’t believe that because you are a saint you will necessarily persevere—but that you need to persevere because you are a saint. Jesus said,

“If you continue in My word, then you are My disciples indeed.” Jn. 8:31 Then he quotes Jesus again, “If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire and they are burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. Jn. 15:6-7

1) Pastor Chuck then stated, “Jesus Himself brought up the possibility of a person not abiding in Him. So we seek to take a balance position rather than getting on one side and pressing the Five Points of Calvinism.” (Calvary Distinctives; 115)

2) I do not use the word lose your salvation because it is not found in Scripture, the words used are, “do not drift, backsliding, some will depart from the faith, do not depart from the Living God, apostatize!”

c. Zane C. Hodges writes regarding the five points of Calvinism, known by the acronym TULIP, “None of these ideas has any right to be called normative Protestant theology. None has ever been held by a wide cross-section of Christendom. Most important none of them is biblical....all of them lie outside the proper parameters of Christian orthodoxy”. (Hunt:80)

d. The exercise of our free-will is not works for salvation, but rather the enabling of God for salvation. Any attempt to teach either predestination or free-will at the expense of the

other will be unbalanced and extreme, ending up in spiritual error, the sovereignty of God and human responsibility are both taught in Scripture.

- f. If I am wrong that a person is able to walk away from Christ, what do I have to lose or heresy am I teaching by telling you must ABIDE in Christ? Nothing!!!! They are the words of Jesus!

2. The believers confident assurance should be on nothing but dependence on the work of Christ.

- a. Paul again says, “Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ”. Phil. 1:6

1) “The Spirit Himself **bears** witness with our spirit that we are children of God.” Rom. 8:16

2) We are not to resist, grieve, quench or insult to the Spirit of grace. Acts 7:51; Eph. 4:30; 1Thess. 5:19; Heb. 10:29

- b. Paul states, “For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have **believed** and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day”. 2Tim. 1:12

1) Paul said, “I have been crucified with Christ;... and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” Gal. 2:20

2) “For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. Not only *that*, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for *it* with perseverance.” Rom. 8:22-25

- b. Peter and Jude assure us.

1) “Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.” 1Pet. 1:3-5

2) Jude says it all, “Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.” Jude 1:24-25

The identification of the Holy Spirit is to sanctify and glorify the believer!

III. The admiration of the Holy Spirit. vs. 14b

* “to the praise of His glory.”

- A. The apostle Paul indicated the response of a believer towards the Holy Spirit regarding salvation, it should be that of celebration.
 - 1. The word praise “epainos” means exaltation, approbation or commendation.
 - a. The word to “eis” expresses the aim or goal.
 - b. The idea is one of expressing thankful appreciation and adoration by a sinner from the heart in his worship of God for the Holy Spirits part in salvation.
 - c. The word praise appears 11 times in the New Testament, 7 of the 11 refer to God or the gospel.
 - d. The three persons of the Godhead are praised for their part in salvation.
 - 1) To the Father. vs. 6
 - 2) To the Son. vs. 12
 - 3) To the Holy Spirit. vs. 14
 - 2. This is not a natural, but rather a super-natural response having been saved.
 - a. Having heard the gospel of salvation. vs. 13b-c
 - 1) The good news from heaven.

- 2) The power of God unto salvation, as He initiates salvation.
- b. Having been convicted of one’s sin and hostility towards God.
 - 1) The Holy Spirit revealing the sins of man, both public and private.
 - 2) The Holy Spirit revealing the need of a person to call upon God in repentance to be saved.
- c. Having been forgiven of their sins by repenting becoming a child of God.
 - 1) The sinner obtains faith by hearing the word of God. Rom. 10:17
 - 2) The sinner calls on the name of the Lord and is saved. Rom. 10:13
- 3. This praise looks back to the two things. vs. 13e-14a
 - a. Being sealed with the Spirit, the guaranteed pledge of our inheritance.
 - b. The redemption of our purchased possession, our spirit.
- B. The apostle Paul indicated that the praise of a believer for the the Holy Spirit’s part in salvation should be that of His glory.
 - 1. The word glory “doxa” in our context has the sense of splendor and brightness that belongs only to the Holy Spirit.
 - a. The Hebrew word glory “kabowd” in its root word has the idea of heaviness of greater dignity and honor.

- * Like the Shekinah glory in the tabernacle and temple!
 - b. The Greek word “doxa” has the similar idea of the supreme, magnificence, excellence splendor.
 - c. The praiseful worship over the glory is over the magnanimous splendor of the Holy Spirit’s work in the life of a believer till he is taken to heaven!
2. The glory belongs only to the Third person of the God-head for his part in the salvation of sinners.
 - a. First “praise of His glory” for the faithfulness of the Holy Spirit during our life time, as Jesus promised.
 - b. Second “praise of His glory” for His part in the final act of the complete ransoming redemption of our bodies.

Illustration

“All the people saw the pillar of cloud standing *at* the tabernacle door, and all the people rose and worshiped, each man *in* his tent door.” Ex. 33:10

Application

1. Jesus promised His disciples He would not leave them as orphans, but sent the Spirit for them and us.
 - a. He would pray the Father and He would give them another Helper that He may abide forever. Jn. 14:16

- b. He called Him the Spirit of truth the world cannot receive because it neither sees or knows Him, but they knew Him, He would dwell with them and be in them. Jn. 14:17
- c. He said, “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” Jn. 14:26
- d. He said, “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.” Jn. 15:26
- e. Jesus said, “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. “And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: “of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you.” Jn. 16:7-13

2. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would complete the final act of redemption by ransoming our spirits and glorifying our bodies.

- a. Through Isaiah, “Your **dead** shall **live**; *Together with my **dead** body they shall arise. Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust; For your dew is like the dew of herbs, And the earth shall cast out the **dead**.” Is. 26:19*
- b. The short-term fulfillment, “Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.” Matt. 27:51-53
- c. The long-term fulfillment, “Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.” 1Cor. 15:51-53

* “For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in

Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.” 1Thess. 4:15-17

The admiration of the Holy Spirit is for His part in the salvation of the believer!

Conclusion

This is the blessing associated with the Holy Spirit in the doctrine of salvation, consisting of:

- I. The illumination of the Holy Spirit is to regenerate sinners into believers!
- II. The identification of the Holy Spirit is to sanctify and glorify the believer!
- III. The admiration of the Holy Spirit is for His part in the salvation of the believer!