

United in Christ
Part 2
“I in Christ and Christ in Me”

Ephesians 1

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.** 4 For he chose us **in him** before the creation of the world to be **holy and blameless** in his sight. **In love** 5 he **predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ,** in accordance with his pleasure and will — 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. 7 **In him we have redemption** through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace 8 that he lavished on us. **With all wisdom and understanding,** 9 **he made known to us the mystery of his will** according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, 10 to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment— **to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.**

Vs. 3

Praise be to **the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,** who **has blessed us** in the **heavenly realm** with **every spiritual blessing** in Christ.

The Bible says that our Heavenly Father has done this for us because we are in Christ.

(He has) **Blessed us:** celebrate with praise, to invoke blessings, to consecrate with solemn prayer.

In the heavenly realm: Before a real blessing manifests in the natural it starts in the spiritual.

many times; your gonna sense it before you see it...

Malachi 3:10 “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.”

It starts in heavenly realm...

- When Joshua and the Israelites marched around the walls of Jericho the heavens were at work. In those 7 days of their obedience walking around those walls the heavens were preparing a victory. Then on the 7th day when they shouted a great victory was manifest before their eyes.
- It is great to have an earthly blessing but a heavenly one is better...
- An earthly blessing will last you a little while but a heavenly blessing will last forever...

With every spiritual blessing: I'm not sure where to start on an exhaustive list of every spiritual blessing; but I'm pretty sure it's all of them.

Abraham had a blessing
Jacob had a blessing
Moses had a blessing
Joshua had a blessing
Daniel had a blessing

We have a promise in being united in Christ that He has unlocked every spiritual blessing in heaven and is holding nothing back.

To those who in Christ we have this promise, He is not stingy... He is not reserved in his giving... Heaven has an ample supply and we should approach God with eager expectation that all that heaven has is there for us...

John 15:16

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

Vs. 4

he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless

He chose in him: This indicates his intention, that we would be joined in Christ.

- Believers are chosen by God, and they are chosen before they *have done* anything or *have been* anything for God.
- What a powerful picture of God's heart for the redemption for mankind...
- He was thinking about you and planning for you to be in him from the beginning...

And you were chosen before the creation of the world... to be Holy and Blameless...

Holy: A most holy thing, a saint; physically pure, morally blameless.

- We are chosen not only for salvation, but also to be holy and blameless.

Vs. 5

In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ,

This is God's mission and purpose
Not to find members
Not for fans
But for family

You were called and predestined by God to be a Son or a Daughter of God...

In Roman law, "When adoption was complete it was complete indeed. The person who had been adopted had all the rights of a legitimate son in his new family and completely lost all rights in his old family. In the eyes of the law he was a new person. So new was he that even all debts and obligations connected with his previous family were abolished as if they had never existed."

Friend I believe with God it goes even further than that.

When a child is adopted into a family, paper work is completed and agreements are made.

When you and I are brought into the family of God we are born again.

You are are born again by the Holy Spirit and this time into the Family of God...

Vs. 9,10

With all wisdom and understanding, 9 he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, 10 to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—**to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.**

John 17 Jesus Prays for All Believers

20 “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 **that all of them may be one**, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. **May they also be in us** so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— 23 I in them and you in me —**so that they may be brought to complete unity.** Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

24 “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

This is the Mystery of his will, he has made known to us:

- To bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ...
- That the Church (Believers) be one...
- That we may be united in Christ even as Christ is united in the Father...
- Then the world will know that Jesus is from the Father... & And that he loves us with the love of God...

Closing:

In Christ we are blessed in the heavenly realm with every spiritual blessing...

In Christ we are chose in him before the creation of the world to be holy... and blameless...

In Christ we are adopted as sons and daughters...

In Christ we are made one...