

# OVERWHELMED BY THE FATHER'S LOVE

## Ephesians 1:3-6

Happy Father's Day. Welcome to part two of our pastoral team summer message series, "Called." Ephesians 1-3 presents who you and I are as the Church (*called out ones*) in Christ....

### A HYMN OF PRAISE (Ephesians 1:3-14)

Paul wrote one amazing sentence, phrase upon phrase, excitedly overwhelmed with the grace of God's loving plan to us.

**1:3-6** PRAISE to the Father who chose us in the PAST "...to the praise of the glory of His grace" (1:6)

**1:7-12** PRAISE to the Son who redeems us in the PRESENT "...to the praise of His glory" (1:12)

**1:13-14** PRAISE to the Holy Spirit who seals us for the FUTURE "...to the praise of His glory (1:14)

#### I. THE EXTENT OF OUR SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS (1:3)

- A. WHO: *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...*
- B. WHEN: *Has blessed us...*
- C. WHAT: *Every spiritual blessing...*
- D. WHERE: *In the heavenly places...*
- E. HOW: *In Christ...*

#### II. THE ELECTION OF OUR FATHER'S CALLING (1:4-6)

##### A. He Chose Us (1:4)

- 1. What is Election?
  - *God in eternity past chose for Himself some, out of lost humanity, to be saved.*
- 2. Who is Election accomplished? "*in Him*"
- 3. Who is chosen?
  - "*Us*" On what basis? (Romans 9:14-15, 19-20)
  - Is it true that "*whosoever will may come*"? (John 3:16, 6:37, 44)
- 4. Why?
  - A Changed People (1:4b)
  - A Christ-like People (Romans 8:28-29)

##### B. He Adopted Us (1:5)

- 1. The Meaning of Adoption
- 2. The Means of Adoption
- 3. The Motive of Adoption (5b-6a)

##### C. He Accepts Us (1:6)

- 1. Who is *the Beloved*?
- 2. What does it mean to be in the Beloved?

#### APPLICATIONS/IMPLICATIONS:

- 1. Christian, is God's sovereign love for you overwhelmingly precious? Does it motivate you to live as who you are?
- 2. If you are not a believer yet, how can you get in on such love? (Jn. 3:16)