

Why You Were Saved

Ephesians emphasizes that we are a body. In the first three chapters, Paul discusses the theology of the body. In the second three chapters, Paul addresses the practice of the body. Ephesians 1:4-6a contains the blueprints for the body. You and I are part of that marvelous body. Today, we will discuss why God created the body.

I. Ephesians 1:4 - Holy and Blameless

- A. 1:4 - *even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be **holy** and **blameless** before Him.*
 - 1. Paul is not talking about *how* one is saved, but for *what purpose* he/she is saved. It is the ultimate end of our salvation.
 - 2. Compare Colossians 1:22; Ephesians 5:27: *without **spot** or wrinkle...*
- B. When you see the focus, everything else falls into place.
 - 1. He chose **us** in Him. The only ones who are holy and blameless are those who have chosen Him.
 - 2. The “us” in 1.4 are those who believe and choose to respond.
- C. God predestined the **result** of salvation - not the beginning of it.
 - 1. Those who *respond* to the call will end up looking like Jesus.
 - 2. Romans 8:28-30; Philippians 1:6; 2 Corinthians 3:18

II. Ephesians 1:5a - Predestined for Adoption as Sons and Daughters

- A. 1:5a - *In **love**, he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ...* This goes beyond our comprehension.
- B. 1:5a - *In love, he predestined us for adoption **as sons and daughters** through Jesus Christ...* See a close, personal relationship.
- C. 1:5a - *In love, he predestined us for **adoption** as sons through Jesus Christ...* God is bringing together a people in whom He can delight and enjoy.

III. Ephesians 1:5b-6a - God did all this for His Glory

- A. 1:5b - God took great delight in thinking about His future people, thinking kindly about them.
- B. 1:6a - it's all for a purpose - *the praise of His glorious **grace**.*

IV. As We Close

- A. Psalm 136:23-24 - When you think about it, you can only praise Him. Thank Him. Live for Him. Be an active part of His body....
- B. Jesus is the source of our life. Through His sacrifice, we've been born again. Have you?