

The Past Blessing of _____.

For further reading: **Romans 8:26–33; 1 Corinthians 1:18–31**

John Stott

A gateway, a golden chain, a kaleidoscope, a snowball, a racehorse, an operatic overture and the flight of an eagle: all these metaphors in their different ways describe the impression of colour, movement and grandeur which the sentence makes on the reader's mind.

The Present Blessing of _____.

For further reading: **Romans 8:15–23; Galatians 4:4–7**

Robert A. Peterson

God didn't choose to be our foster parent. We don't get kicked out of the family because of our behavior. We don't have to worry day to day whether or not we are good enough to be part of the family. In his infinite kindness, God made us a permanent part of his family.... Nothing can undo the legal procedure that binds me to Christ.

The Future Blessing of _____.

For further reading: **Romans 8:31–39; Hebrews 3:12–19; 2 Corinthians 1:20–22**

Harold Hoehner

This seal of the Holy Spirit also serves as a deposit or down payment, providing a guarantee of more to come. It is the initial installment of the believers' future inheritance... The initial installment of the Holy Spirit is a little bit of heaven in the believers' lives—with a guarantee of much more yet to come.

The _____ of this _____ Blessing.

Group Questions

1. Tell your group: What was your favorite snack as a child? Why? What is your favorite snack right now? Why? What is one food you hope to try in the future? Why?
2. What is one thing that stood out to you most from this passage and why?
 - a. What does this passage say about worship? How does it move you to praise God?
3. How does this passage contribute to your understanding of the Trinity?
4. How might some people describe the doctrine of election in negative terms? Why should the doctrine of election lead us to praise God?
5. Why should we reflect deeply on the doctrine of adoption? What practical benefit might a deep understanding of this doctrine have?
 - a. How would you explain to a non-Christian what Christ did to accomplish your redemption?
6. How does knowing that God works all things according to the counsel of His will affect you? Why do we need to reflect on this truth?
7. Explain the importance of “when you believed” in verse 13, in light of the context of verses 3–14.
8. Using concepts from this text, explain who the Holy Spirit is and summarize His role in salvation.
9. Why should/does this passage give us hope?