

EPHESIANS 1:7-10

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight 9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him 10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. To understand this section best let's start with verse 3 and then work out way back to verse go 7:

a. Ephesians 1:3 (NASB) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who *has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,*

i. Some of those spiritual blessings:

1. Ephesians 1:4 (NASB) just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, **that we would be holy and blameless before Him.** In love

2. Ephesians 1:5 (NASB) He predestined us to **adoption as sons** through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,

3. Ephesians 1:6 (NASB) to the praise of the glory of **His grace, which He freely bestowed on us** in the Beloved.

II. This brings us to verse 7 & 8a and the **blessings in these verses:** 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He lavished on us.

a. **Redemption** -apolytro-sis (ä-po-lü'-tro-ses) - liberation procured by the payment of a ransom

i. How did we achieve this liberation? "Through His blood"

1. **Hebrews 9:22 (NASB)** And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

ii. A twofold thing happened for us when Christ died and we placed our trust in Him for our salvation:

iii. We were set free from our bondage and all our debts were forgiven:

1. **Colossians 1:11b-14 (NLT)** 11b...May you be filled with joy, 12 always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. 13 For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and **transferred** us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, 14 who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.

b. **Forgiveness** - aphasis (ä'-fe-ses) - forgiveness or pardon, of sins (letting them go as if they had never been committed), remission of the penalty.

c. “according to the riches of His grace” -

i. **Riches** - ploutos (plü'-tos) - fulness, abundance, plenitude

1. **Abundance** - an extremely plentiful or oversufficient quantity or supply.

ii. **How much grace does God have?** An “oversufficient quantity.”

d. 8 which He lavished on us -

i. **Lavished** - perisseuō (pe-res-syü'-o)

1. to exceed a fixed number of measure, to be left over and above a certain number or measure

2. to furnish one richly so that he has abundance

ii. How much grace do you and I have? It can't be measured because as our word here suggests it "exceeds a fixed number of measure."

1. **John 1:16 (NASB)** For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

2. **(Luk 15:17 NASB)** 17 "But when he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have more than enough (*perisseuō, lavished*) bread, but I am dying here with hunger!

III. **(Eph 1:8b-10 NASB)** 8b ...In all wisdom and insight 9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him 10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, [that is,] the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him

a. 8b ...In all wisdom and insight 9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention **which He purposed** (*determined*) in Him

i. Here again we see that God's predetermination of what it is that He plans to do has to do through **Him** not **You**.

ii. What is that plan?

1. **Ephesians 1:10 (NLT)** And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ--everything in heaven and on earth.

iii. What we can't allow ourselves to forget is there's a grand and eternal story going on. One that started LONG before you and I came into the picture.

iv. We will cover in greater detail in our next class