



Getting Everything in a Nothing World

December 17, 2023 ☞ Wonderful Mercy Church


“The gospel is not news of an absent Jesus who waits for us to receive him into our lives. The gospel is the staggering news that Jesus has received us into his life.”

Baxter Kruger, *A Note on Jesus Christ and the Church*






Ephesians 1:13-14 MIXED TRANSLATIONS




In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of the Promise.







Ephesians 1:13-14 MIXED TRANSLATIONS




The Spirit is the first installment on what's coming, a reminder that we'll get everything God has planned for us, God's guarantee that He will give us the inheritance He promised and that He has purchased us to be His own people. He did this for the praise of His glory.





**“Place me like a seal
over your heart, like a
seal on your arm. For
love is as strong as
death, its jealousy as
enduring as the grave.
Love flashes like fire,
the brightest kind of
flame.”**

Song of Songs 8:6 NEW LIVING TRANSLATION



“The Spirit Himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God’s children, and if children, also heirs— heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ.”

Romans 8:16-17a HCSB

EPHESIANS 1:14 THE MESSAGE

**“We’ll get
everything God has
planned for us!”**

Jesus' ministry, the one we're called to, was a ministry of presence—when he showed up, God showed up, and that's when things got interesting.




**Paul says we've
been sealed with
Holy Spirit—this is
our daily Pentecost,
the solution we
carry inside of us
for every upside-
down situation and
storm we're in.**




Acts 27:20

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION



When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved.




The image is composed of three vertical panels on the left side, each showing a different view of the aurora borealis (Northern Lights) over a snowy, rocky landscape. The top panel shows a bright green aurora over a small pond. The middle panel shows a green aurora over a larger body of water with mountains in the background. The bottom panel shows a green aurora over a dark, rocky terrain.

Acts 27:24

NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

“Do not be afraid, Paul. ...God has granted safety to all those who are sailing with you.”

The image is a composite. On the right side, there is a photograph of a sunset over a snowy, rocky landscape. The sky is filled with vibrant orange and yellow clouds, with the sun low on the horizon. The ground is covered in snow with dark rocks scattered throughout. On the left side, there is a large, semi-transparent teal circle that serves as a background for the text.

**“Springtime is the secret
work of winter *all the
time.* At the heart of the
stripped-down, arrested,
cold stillness of winter
there is huge movement
secretly at work.”**

John O'Donohue, Irish poet



WORD FOR WMC

HOLY SPIRIT TIME ∞ JULY 30, 2023

**“This church is a
shelter from the
storm.”**



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