

SESSION 3

EPHESIANS 1.11-14

Context: The heavenly realms are really the Kingdom of God where Jesus reigns in absolute, resplendent authority, enthroned over all reality and the creation that came into existence through Him. The Church is Christ's predestined, elected people drawn to Him throughout the ages who receive the grace and truth He embodies, living life in the mighty train of His love with humility, assurance, and zeal to confirm their call and election.

In Christ the entire universe finds its full explanation and rationale; through Him the mystery of the Father's purpose and will is made known, which is to unite all things in Christ in the fullness of time. In this, the consequences of the Fall are totally reversed. Man and creation are raised from corruption into the redemptive unity of God the Father's original design.

Learning Target For Enduring Understanding From This Session:

That you would be certain that every part of your journey in Christ Jesus is designed to give praise to the glory of God. You need never be in doubt as to the reason for your existence.

V 11 What do you see re-emphasized in this verse? See V 5 and V 9

V 12 What is the foundational truth as to the purpose of our existence?

How do we understand this reason to persist through the trials of living?

Eph 2.10

Our lives in Christ are designed to be a mighty "Amen!" to God's glory, the revelation of all His attributes and character.

Who is Paul speaking of in the phrase "we who first hoped in Christ"?

Who is "you also" in V 13?

Who does "our" refer to in V 14?

What is this "lesson of the pronouns" revealing?

V 13 What is the process outlined by which one is joined to the Kingdom of God?

How do we understand "hearing" as used in this verse?

What is the first consequence of "hearing the word of truth, the Gospel of your salvation"?

What is conviction?

What choices does one have at the point of conviction?

What are the spiritual dynamics of denial?

Who is the target of “believing” in this verse?

What is the relationship between conviction and repentance?

How does repentance come?

What does it mean to repent?

What is contrition? Ps 51.17

All of your unbelief, denial, arrogance, excuses, manipulative activity, self justification, judgments of others, and preconceived ideas are smashed, crushed, and ground into nonexistence at the foot of the Cross by your clearly perceiving that the blood of Christ Jesus was shed for your sin revealing to you the compelling, redeeming, restoring love of God. This revelation is an intensely personal, life transforming experience from which you will never recover.

What is the difference between the operations of hearing, believing and being sealed?

What is the essence of being sealed?

What is the immediate result of being sealed?

What is the relationship between faith and assurance? Can you have one without the other?

V 14 What does the Holy Spirit represent as He dwells within you?

What is our inheritance?

What is a guarantee?

What again is the ultimate purpose of our sanctified, sealed life in Christ Jesus?