

This Morning's Sermon

At the fullness of time, God's sons and daughters will be part of what is united together in Him—things on heaven and earth. What will happen when all things are brought together? Ephesians 1.11 says we'll receive our inheritance in full. It's something so certain that Paul speaks of it in the past tense: We have received an inheritance. God always keeps His promises.

I. Ephesians 1.11-12: The Ground of Our Inheritance

- A. 1.11 - _____ we have obtained an inheritance...
1. Ten times in 1.3-14 we read of the phrase In Him, or before Him, or in the beloved.
 2. There is no way to get anything God offers apart from Jesus.
- B. When did you get "in" Christ? Romans 6.3-6 - your baptism united you with Christ.
- C. 1.11b - _____ all things according to the counsel of His will. Work - "energy"
1. God always works out what He plans. Why? 1.12 - to the _____ of His glory.
- D. 1.12-13 - Look at just one more thing here ... God's benefits, blessings, and power ... are only available to those who choose to take advantage of it.

II. Ephesians 1.13-14a: The Guarantee of Our Inheritance

- A. 1.13 - In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised _____.
- B. 1.14a - who is the guarantee of our salvation until we acquire possession of it.
1. The Spirit's work: confirmation.
 2. Galatians 4.7: So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then God has made you an _____.
- C. 1.13b - we have been _____. To be "branded or marked in order to distinguish one person/thing from another." Culturally, to be sealed meant:
1. Approval - you have met the approval of God. See Ephesians 1.6.
 2. Authentication - Official documents are often signed and stamped with a seal over the signature. It guarantees the document is authentic. See Ephesians 4.30.
 3. Appropriation - A seal establishes ownership. See Colossians 1.13.
 4. Security - See 2 Timothy 2.19 - The Lord _____ who are His...
 5. Completion - Seals indicated a finished transaction. See Colossians 2.13-15.
- D. If you have responded in faith to God's call of salvation, if you've responded from the heart, you have been sealed. You have been marked as belonging to God.
1. We can exhale and rest in the promises of God. Romans 8.31-39

III. Ephesians 1.14b - The Goal of Our Inheritance

- A. 1.14b - to the praise of His _____. God wants to be glorified through you.
- B. We should all be humbled by God's work. All we should want to do in this world is lift up Jesus in every way possible.

IV. As We Close

- A. Those in Christ have been blessed with every spiritual blessing.
- B. Never, ever forget who you are and what you've been given!



Speaker

Matthew Allen

Scripture Reading

Nathan Armstrong

Ephesians 1:11-14

QUESTIONS

1. Reflecting on Ephesians 1:11-12, how does our union with Christ impact our understanding of inheritance and God's promises?
2. In Ephesians 1:13-14a, the Holy Spirit is described as the guarantee of our inheritance. How does this assurance influence our daily walk of faith?
3. Galatians 4:7 emphasizes our transition from slavery to sonship through Christ. What significance does this hold for our identity as heirs of God?
4. How does being sealed help your understanding of belonging to God?
5. Ephesians 1:14b highlights the ultimate goal of our inheritance - to bring praise to God's glory. How can we practically live out this purpose in our lives?

ANSWERS

Holy Spirit

Knows

In Him

Heir

Glory

Works

Sealed

Praise