

Ephesians

Chapter 1:6-11

I. **Ephesians 1:6⁶**To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

a. His grace

I. **His grace is the object. Working backward, his grace is such that even it is to receive praise and glory. We can't be in Christ if not for God's grace. Our merit is a useless currency before God. All spiritual blessings are God's grace to us.**

II. **Acts 20:24²⁴**But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

III. **II Timothy 1:9⁹**Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

IV. **Grace in Ephesians**

1. 1:6 – accepted in the beloved

2. 2:5,8- salvation by grace

3. 1:7, 2:7- riches of grace

4. 3:2- dispensation of the grace of God

5. 3:8- grace given

6. 4:7- grace given in spiritual gifts

b. Accepted

I. **Accepted- Greek word *charitóō*- Strong's Con. From G5485; to grace, i.e. indue with special honor:—make accepted, be highly favoured.**

II. **It's only used twice in scripture.**

1. **Luke 1:28** ²⁸And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, *thou that art highly favoured*, the Lord is with thee: blessed *art* thou among women.

ii. One other time in scripture

1. **Ephesians 1:6** ⁶To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

- a. **Who is that offered to? All that believe!!!! Even those that didn't carry baby Jesus in the womb like Mary.**

c. In the beloved

I. Christ is the beloved.

1. **Matthew 3:17** ¹⁷And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
2. **Matthew 12:18** ¹⁸Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles.
3. **Matthew 17:5** ⁵While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.
 - a. **We are in Christ by faith through grace. That is the basis of our acceptance. This isn't about us "accepting Christ". What matters is that God "accepted Christ" and that we are in Christ.**
 - b. **Les Feldick mentions that Paul uses "In Him", "In Christ" and "In Whom" 90 times. These spiritual blessings only apply to those who are "in Christ".**

II. **Ephesians 1:7**⁷In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

a. Redemption

I. **Redemption- Greek word** *apolytrōsis* - Strongs Con. from a compound of G575 and G3083; (the act) ransom in full, i.e. (figuratively) riddance, or (specially) Christian salvation:—deliverance, redemption.

II. **In the Old Testament, the word is used often with words like price and money. The idea is pictured through Hosea and Gomer.**

1. **Hosea 3:1-5** ¹Then said the LORD unto me, Go yet, love a woman beloved of *her* friend, yet an adulteress, according to the love of the LORD toward the children of Israel, who look to other gods, and love flagons of wine. ²So I bought her to me for fifteen *pieces* of silver, and *for* an homer of barley, and an half homer of barley: ³And I said unto her, Thou shalt abide for me many days; thou shalt not play the harlot, and thou shalt not be for *another* man: so *will* I also *be* for thee. ⁴For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and *without* teraphim: Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.

III. **In Ephesians**

1. 1:7 redemption = **Have** forgiveness of sins
2. 1:14 = **Until** redemption of the purchased possession
3. 4:30 = **Unto** day of redemption

b. Forgiveness of sins

I. **In this usage, redemption is specifically tied to forgiveness of sins. The payment to buy us out of**

the slavery of sin was the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

1. **Ephesians 2:13** ¹³But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.
2. **Colossians 1:20** ²⁰And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, *I say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven.
3. **Romans 3:25** ²⁵Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;
4. **Romans 5:9** ⁹Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.
5. **I Peter 1:18-19** ¹⁸Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:
6. **Hebrews 9:22** ²²And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.
7. **Colossians 1:14** ¹⁴In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:
8. **Read this verse in the ESV** “In whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins”

a. What is missing?

c. Riches of His grace

- I. **Look at the repeated use of grace. The riches of His grace is also used in Ephesians 2:7 regarding the ages to come.**

II. **Ephesians 2:7⁷** That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

III. **Ephesians 3:8⁸** Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

IV. **The blood was the instrument for forgiveness.**

Grace was the purpose. Redemption involves

payment. The blood of Jesus was the payment. The riches of His grace indicates a wealth of grace.

Merit can't be involved, so it has to be of grace. Is there enough grace for all? Of course, there is an exceeding amount of riches of grace.

1. **Romans 5:20²⁰** Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

2. **Freely given**

a. **Romans 8:32³²** He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

III. **Ephesians 1:8-9⁸** Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; ⁹ Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

a. Abounded toward us

I. **Paul just finished verse 7 “riches of his grace”.**

There is a semicolon, then the word abounded- which essentially means overflowing. He hasn't just abounded to us in his exceeding riches of grace in forgiveness, but in other areas.

II. **I Corinthians 1:30³⁰** But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

b. Wisdom and prudence

- I. **Wisdom is knowledge in practice. Prudence is more of intelligence and moral insight. These are provided by His grace so that we can understand and do the Will of God.**

c. **Mystery of His will**

- I. **Mystery- Greek word *mystērion*- Strong's Con. from a derivative of μύω mýō (to shut the mouth); a secret or "mystery" (through the idea of silence imposed by initiation into religious rites):—mystery.**
 1. **Mysterion is only translated “Mystery” in it’s 27 occurrences. It is used 3 times in the gospels and only references the mysteries of the kingdom. It is used 4 times in Revelation regarding the seven stars, mystery of God and the great whore of Babylon. The other 20 times are all by Paul.**
 2. **Today, God’s will can be known. Paul describes aspects that were kept secret since the world began.**
 3. **Three times in chapter 1, God’s will is mentioned**
 - a. **Ephesians 1:5** ⁵Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,
 - b. **Ephesians 1:9** ⁹Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:
 - c. **Ephesians 1:11** ¹¹In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

d. Good pleasure

I. **Not just that He purposed it but it was His good pleasure. It wasn't with an eye roll or drudgery.**

IV. **Ephesians 1:10**¹⁰That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him:

a. Dispensation of the fullness of times

I. **Can't be now.**

1. **Matthew 24:31**³¹And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.
2. **Romans 11:15**¹⁵For if the casting away of them *be* the reconciling of the world, what *shall* the receiving *of them be*, but life from the dead?
3. **Romans 11:25**²⁵For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

II. **Ages to come most likely**

1. **Ephesians 2:7**⁷That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.
2. **Revelation 21:1**¹And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

III. **In Heaven**

1. **Genesis 15:5**⁵And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.

2. **The Plan for the Heavens**

- a. **Ephesians 1:3**³Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath

blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ:

- b. **Ephesians 2:6** ⁶And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:
- c. **Philippians 3:20** ²⁰For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:
- d. **Colossians 3:1** ¹If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

IV. On Earth

- 1. **Genesis 13:16** ¹⁶And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, *then* shall thy seed also be numbered.

2. The Plan for Earth

- a. **Genesis 12:1-3** ¹Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: ²And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: ³And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.
- b. **Isaiah 60:21** “they shall inherit the land for ever”
 - i. See also Psalm 37 and Matthew 5:5
- c. **Exodus 19:6** “Israel will be a kingdom of priests”
- d. **Jesus on the throne**

- i. **I Chronicles 17:11**¹¹ And it shall come to pass, when thy days be expired that thou must go *to be* with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee, which shall be of thy sons; and I will establish his kingdom.

V. **Ephesians 1:11**¹¹ In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

a. In whom

- I. **This is part of the “In Christ”, “In Him”, “In Whom”. This is the only way to get these blessings. We must be a believer.**

b. Obtained an inheritance

I. **Two things.**

1. **You have to be eligible**

a. **Ephesians 1:5**⁵ Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

b. **Galatians 3:26**²⁶ For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

2. **There has to be an inheritance**

a. **Riches mentioned in Ephesians 2:7 and 3:8**

c. Purpose of Him

- I. **The predestination is for those in Christ. That is the purpose of His Will.**