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Okay, guys, welcome back to our Thursday night Bible study. I want to remind everybody where we're at. We started this process in Revelation a month or so, two months ago.

I don't have the exact date, but it's been a while. And one of the things that we wanted to do was after we finished the letters to the churches, we wanted to scoot out of Revelations to get into Ephesians, because what applies to our lives today is those letters. And if we don't understand the rulebook and the application of what those letters meant to those churches, then we can't apply those churches' letters, nor understand full well the doctrine of Christ and the application of that doctrine into our Christian life, so that we can actually determine for ourselves, based upon your self-assessment that you should be doing, determine for ourselves where our walk is in this Christian life.

Why is that important? Because as soon as we finish with Ephesians and get through this process of six chapters, we're going to go back into Revelation, and the next thing that hit us is the rapture. And that rapture is not meaningful to you unless you understand the basis of your walk with Christ in this Christianity process. All right? So where we're at is we've done an introduction, a firehose introduction to Ephesians, and now we're going to break it down.

Okay? Tonight we're only going to deal with the first three verses of chapter one. I'm going to give you a heads up of how I've laid this out for you guys. And I've done this.

I'm now into the fifth set of teaching documents, and I'm going to do it this way for the whole Ephesians look. The first part of every discussion will be not as much of an overview of those chapters that we're going to do, but it's going to be a history lesson of how those verses fit in the whole Bible so that you can actually see the traceability of the doctrine, the theology, or your rule book as it relates to the entire Bible. Okay? And then after we get through that, which will take us about an hour, we're going to get into the detail verses word for word.

So you're going to see what those words mean and how they apply to your life. Now, these first three verses are mainly your intro, but they're jam-packed with information that you need. So that's how this is laid out for you, and that's how we're going to move forward, because I didn't want to bring in all of the history in Bible because it convolutes the detail learning of the scriptures.

Okay, so this is more like a sermonette up front and a detailed Bible study at the end. All right. That's how this sort of is laid out.

All right. So get your pencils and pieces of paper. And this is posted on the website in print form already.

So you can print this and read it and make notes and everything, and we can talk about your questions as we go forward. Okay? Everybody good with that? All right, let's go. Well, if you weren't, I'm sorry, but this is what we're going to do anyway.

So it is what it is. Can't go back and rework it. Okay, so let me get to sharing my screen.

Okay, everybody see it? Hopefully? Yeah, there it is. Okay. All right.

So let's migrate through. Okay, so the background. Ephesus was the capital of a pro consular of Asia Minor, which was second only to Rome.

Okay. Size. It's important.

Ephesus was the hub of Asia Minor. That was the first church. That was the example of the church.

And it was only second to Rome. So it was a little bit smaller than Rome. But it was significant with regards to.

Guys, mute yourself, please. It was significant with regards to its positioning in the region and its dominant control over what went on. So it was consecrated to Artemis.

It was colonized mainly from Athens. If you recall that. They had great painters, all kinds of histories, a philosophy, all kinds of the arts, and some of the what you so-called science came out of Ephesus.

And you're going to find a lot of scripture in Ephesians talking about this. All right. So they had schools.

There was a great harbor. They had a theater, second to none. It could seat 50,000 people.

It was an amphitheater. It could seat 50,000 people. And I'm giving you some scriptures.

And the earliest New Testament allusion, pious Jews at Pentecost is Acts 2.9. Okay. So for the background. Paul stayed in Ephesus longer than any other place.

That's significant because it was the center for all of the churches. The gospel may have been more effective in this area than any other place of time in the history of the world. Especially when you're dealing with the fact that you have the apostle of the Gentiles as your person representing Christ in that area.

That is significant. So I'm giving you some historical representation of Paul's ministry. And I'm not going to read that.

It's for your edification here and as you do your further studies. Now, Paul's last voyage to Syria was in 58 A.D. Now, why is this significant? Because Paul in Acts, okay, in our study of Acts, you're going to find that the first half deals with Peter. Guys, mute yourself, please.

I can't mute. I could guess. I get it.

Okay. So Paul in the last part of Acts, Acts ends with Paul being a prisoner in Rome. And from there he dies.

So that happened at around 60 A.D. So what you're seeing is Paul's process here is he's getting down to the point where he knows that, you know, death is knocking on his door. Because remember we went through this when we studied Paul, that the Holy Spirit says, Paul, don't go to Rome. And the elders said, Paul, don't go to Rome.

And Paul says, no, I'm going to Rome. So he knew what the outcome was from what he was told by the Holy Spirit and the elders. Okay.

So I've given you the reference in Acts for your understanding as it relates to Paul's last days. All right. This is his preaching going in from Syria, going back where he was taken back into Rome where he spent his last days.

All right. So all of these scriptures here in Acts 20, 18 through 35 is something that you need to review. Okay.

Now, so near in Paul's life, pastoral epistles in 63 A.D. Okay. So Paul wrote the letters to Timothy while he was in jail. So all of this time from 60 to 63 up to the point when they killed him, he wrote all of these letters to Timothy from the jail cell.

All right. So I've given you historical reference with scripture reference of all the people that he met with that took his letters to the churches. Okay.

We'll go through all that. And then I've given you the other visitors that we have gleaned from scripture where it is. So you guys can deal with that.

Now, John's epistles, the first John was a summary. It was a summary sermon. That is where you get the information to validate your salvation.

John's second letter was to Mary, the mother of Jesus, because he had protective right over her given to him by Jesus at the cross. And the third letter was a letter to Ephesus. Okay.

So if you want to read that as it relates to this, I would say go ahead and do that. And in Revelations 2, what I did is I pulled up the scripture, basically, that talks about the golden candlesticks and the letter to Ephesus itself for your review. Subsequent history.

Ephesus remained a seat in the Christian church. It was part of the Christian council. They met there in 431 A.D. So they've been there.

They were there for a long time as the representative of the church. Now, an outline of Ephesians, as we've talked about, chapters 1 through 3 is your rulebook. That's the doctrine, which is our position, what we are in Christ and what he did.

Okay. Chapters 4 through 6 is our duty, our responsibilities, our playbook. What we should do in response to those, to our position.

Okay. So Paul balances the doctrine with duty. So you're going to see, you're going to see as we get into the details of the scripture, you're going to see this balancing effect take place.

What he did, what he does, he says, okay, here's the doctrine and now let me explain it. Okay. So you're going to see this all the way through scripture.

Now, this is a parallel to Joshua. Okay. It's like, it's like God, it's like Moses leading the people to the promised land.

Paul's leading us through Ephesians to our inheritance. Okay. We go through the same journey.

So for purposes of reference, for purposes of going back to get additional history, you need to probably go back and read Deuteronomy. We haven't got to Deuteronomy, but you need to read Deuteronomy and Joshua. Okay.

Because what you're going to see in the Old Testament with God dealing with the Israelites, you're seeing in the New Testament with Paul dealing with the Gentile Christians. But we're going through the same process. All right.

All right. So this is the sermonette as far as getting us through this. So the book of Ephesians is written to Christians, Christians, Jews, and Gentiles that have been converted using Paul's gospel of believing in faith through grace that Christ died, buried, resurrected, ascended, and shed his blood for our sins.

He paid the price. That's what he did. This is not Christians of the Old Testament under the law.

Okay. So we need to be prone to treat our spiritual resources much like people who store their financial resources, like hoarders, or fail to understand that you will not receive God's blessing of financial prosperity with giving God what is owed to him. Okay.

We've talked about this many, many, many times. All right. You're a steward.

That's what we're going to learn. We become our position. Our position in Christ, if we walk with Christ, is a steward.

We own nothing. Okay. He owns everything, and he's given it to us for our use in our physical world.

But it's not ours. When you begin to idol worship, what you think you own, okay, what is that? That's a sin, because it says, even in the Ten Commandments, I have no idols before me. So if you have assets, if you have whatever, children, if you have anything that God has given you, you become a steward of that.

You do not own that. That's the position. Okay.

So such believers are in danger of suffering from spiritual malnutrition because they do not take advantage of the great storehouse of spiritual nourishment and resources that is at their disposal. Your position is a steward of God's storehouse. What you have in the physical form was first manifested to you in the spiritual form.

Nothing happens in the physical form without going through the spiritual side. So what you have was given to you before you got it. In essence, Ephesians has been given such title as the Believer's Bank, the Christian's checkbook, and the treasure house of the Bible.

This beautiful letter tells Christians of their great riches, inheritance, and fullness in Jesus Christ and in the church. Stop right here a second. When you became one with Christ in your salvation, you became part of his body, did you not? That's scripture, right? We understand that, that our position at salvation was to become as part of the body of Christ.

If we're part of the body of Christ, all of the stuff that God, the Father, gave to God, the Son, Jesus Christ, we possess. That's his storehouse. Everything, everything that Christ has is ours.

Now, your walk on this earth, life eternal, after salvation, before glorification means that is your glorified body upon your death or when we get raptured. This period of time gap is your walk. That walk every day needs to be sanctified in Christ.

Again, that's your position. You want to be saved. You got your ticket.

Now, what he says is, is I will bless you with everything I got as long as you walk your position in sanctification with me. That means you die daily. That's Paul saying, I die daily.

Okay, I'm sanctified daily because I walk with Christ every day and he's in total control. I told you I was going to draw this picture out to you, but I want to sort of speak through part of it right now. So when you're saved, you got your ticket, but you have no blessings.

As you make this walk in your position with Christ in this life eternal here on earth, you sanctify yourself by feeding the Holy Spirit inside of you. And as you feed the Holy Spirit inside of you, it grows, it grows, it grows, it grows, it grows, takes more and more and more of your life and control of your life. And the more control it has, the more blessings you have.

The less control it has, the less blessings you have. That's blessings on earth. Okay.

Sanctification means you work at it. Okay. So James says faith that works is dead.

This dead work is sanctification. You have to work to be sanctified in Christ every day of your life. And in doing so, you're going to receive the blessings here on earth.

Now, your work is what gives you your rewards in heaven, not your salvation. Your salvation is just your ticket. As you walk in your position with Christ, and as you sanctify the Holy Spirit more and more and more by feeding it, it means physically you have to read the word.

Okay. You have to understand the word. You have to look for Christ in the word.

You have to look for what he's telling you. You have to be in constant prayer, as the scripture says. You've got to do all of this stuff to sanctify, to feed that Holy Spirit.

If the Holy Spirit is not fed, what work is it going to do in you? It can't, because it is in conflict with your ego. So the more you feed the Holy Spirit, the less your ego takes charge of your life. Once that happens, you can access all of the blessings that God gave to Jesus Christ.

And remember, he gave them in the spirit for you to pull down in the physical. We're going to get into that as we move through. But that is the storehouse.

When the Bible talks about this storehouse, it's talking about all of the things that God has given to Christ that you access during your sanctification walk. It's the works that you do during that walk that gives you your inheritance. Okay.

Inheritance is what you get in heaven. All of your rewards. So you need to see what we're talking about.

Okay. Salvation, your ticket. Walk with Christ.

Sanctification. Feeding that Holy Spirit. That's your daily walk, which increases the Holy Spirit's control in your life, which gives you more and more of the blessings in the storehouse that God gave his son.

As you get sanctification walk happening, you're going to do the works. You're going to become useful and fruitful for Christ. By Scripture, you're going to become useful and fruitful.

Useful and fruitful are work. And that work will determine your inheritance in heaven. Okay.

Let's continue. So just give you an example here. I threw in the thing about Great Depression.

I was working on some additional education stuff. So I threw this in. During the Great Depression, the banks, and get ready for this, guys.

It's fixed to happen here again. The banks would not let you withdraw your money, okay, when the Depression hit. But over time, they begin to allow you to withdraw up 10% of your accounts over a period of time.

In other words, and it wasn't set by law. The bank could actually make that. Some banks said, okay, you can draw out 10% over five weeks.

Some banks said you could draw 10% over 20 weeks. It was all over the place. Okay.

But they put you in a bubble that says you can't touch your money without us giving it to you. Okay. That is totally different than the reserves that Christ put in his storehouse.

You have an unlimited checkbook if you know how to access it. But you got to be sanctified to access it. So you become spiritually deprived, malnourished, because you can't access his storehouse.

Because why? Your decision is not to walk with Christ on a daily basis, not feeding your spirit, being sanctified in this process. Uh-oh. Hang on.

I got to be honest. No, that's right. That's right.

I did it right. I work on this all the time. Sorry, guys.

Okay. So Ephesians. Ephesians 1.1. Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus and to the faithful in Jesus Christ.

Grace be to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, spiritually blessing in Christ. Blessed be the God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ. He's telling you right there that he's given you everything in the storehouse.

Everything is yours. All, all, not some, all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Jesus Christ. Okay.

So the idea of blessing certainly has been co-opted in the common speech of our society. Everybody wants their blessing. I'm blessed at this.

I'm blessed because I have a job. I'm blessed because I have food. I'm blessed because my kids are great.

I'm blessed because I have a car. I'm blessed. I'm blessed.

That is not being blessed. Okay. That is a societal use of the term bless in a pagan manner.

Okay. Whatever it is, we associate being blessed with positive events or positive circumstances. You could be blessed in a negative way as well.

Remember, Christ controls both good and evil. So he's going to bless you no matter which way he chooses you to go. It's not just about positive events.

It's used in a very temporal and very short-sighted way, usually abstracted or divorced from any thought of God. It's a pagan view of what you feel. Feel.

Okay. Emotionally. Feel.

What you feel is going well for you. Okay. The same thing can be said when we say I'm lucky.

Okay. Same type of word. I'm lucky.

All right. So I want to talk about different kinds of blessings. A blessing that is intentional, that comes from heaven, and that lasts forever.

This is not a secular idea of being blessed. It is the notion of those who talk about the lie of prosperity. Blessed is a useful term for people who want also to brag on their achievements and accomplishments.

You become the idol. What's your focus? Your position is not your steward. For many to say you're blessed is a go-to term to declare your success while maintaining an obscure, undefined reference to some divine power somewhere who, for some reason, favors you.

You have no clue where it comes. I'm blessed. Okay.

Who gave it to you? I don't know. I went to school. I got a good job.

You do not apply it to the spiritual realm of where blessings come from. Now, there's a lot of divine favor on people in general. In the world of nonbelievers, it's called common grace, and it is measured of divine favor.

But all of the divine favor of common grace is short-term, temporal, limited in time, and expires totally at death. Ah, no inheritance. Now, this is not all what the Apostle Paul is talking about when he says that we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies or the heavenly places in Christ.

If you look at verse 3, and you would see, blessed is used three times in verse 3. Paul refers to this notion of being blessed from the root eulogio, where we get the word term eulogy. Okay? Eulogio is a Greek term where we get the term eulogy. All right? First, he says you are to bless God because he blessed us.

That's the first blessing. First time he used it. You're to bless God because he blessed us.

Think about the anointing. What did I say? You have to anoint Christ before he anoints you. What Paul is saying is he blessed us because he gave us the storehouse.

Now, you have to bless God to get access to the storehouse. And how? With every spiritual blessing. To bless God means to speak well of him or to praise him.

And why? Because he has blessed us. He gave you life, first, without anything else. He gave you the way to go home.

This is to say he speaks well of us and does well by us, showing us favor with many blessings. So the Apostle Paul opens this letter with a call to praise. Think of the Lord's Prayer.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. That's a praise. You're to praise the Father in any prayer.

That's how you should open your prayers. It tells you that's exactly what you should be doing. You open your prayers by praising the Father for who he is and what he's done.

You're a steward of what he's given you. That's your position. Blessed be the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ.

That's how he opens this. All right. It's like a doxology, if you will.

It's giving God glory. It's giving him his sovereign authority. It's giving him acknowledgment that you understand his sovereign authority.

It's an invitation for us to join him and to bless him who has blessed us with all blessings. And the blessings with which he has blessed us are heavenly blessings. Nothing on this earth comes physically.

It all comes from heaven. Did it not say in the scripture, God made everything on this earth? If that's the case, then everything you have came from heaven. Initial part, it came from heaven.

There are spiritual blessings, so they are eternal. There's life eternal on this earth. Eternal blessings.

What he gave you in that storehouse that you need to have a stewardship view of, it's eternal. It's for all the time you're here on earth. Now, before we look closely at these opening verses, I want to broaden the picture a little bit.

We need to pull back this, and what we're going to be looking at in the book of Ephesians, there's a key word that appears here, and it appears six times. And Paul uses it in his apostles 21 times. Guess what that word is? Mystery.

Mystery. Everything in the gospel to the Gentiles is based upon the mysteries that God withheld from the foundation of the world, and it's not in the Old Testament. It was only given to the church.

So the Holy Spirit, through the apostle Paul, discloses truths that previously was not known, but is now revealed. These are truths that have been unknown from the foundation of the world until the revelation of the New Testament. The New Testament doesn't begin until Christ's death.

You can't have a New Testament until somebody dies. Okay, now that's important to understand. So the pattern of God's revelation with regard to truth has to be understood this way.

God has not from the beginning revealed everything. There is a progress of revelation even through the Old Testament, and there were some things completely hidden from those who lived during the Old Testament era. And the 400 years between the Old Testament, Old and New Testament, and were never revealed until the New Testament.

And the mysteries are about the church. So we need to think about this a little bit. And giving you sort of an outline here.

First point, God has always kept secrets. I won't repeat that. God has secrets.

In perfect wisdom, he has not chosen to reveal everything to us. Some things are hidden and some things are permanently hidden. We'll never know about it until we get to heaven.

Some things are still hidden that we still don't know about, that they're going to reveal from prophecy of the Old Testament and the New Testament during this age of the church as we get more and more closer to the rapture. More and more is going to be revealed. Some things will always be hidden until we arrive in heaven.

But how do we know that? Because Deuteronomy 29.21 says the secret things belong unto the Lord our God. There are secret things that we do not know. But those things which are revealed belong unto us and our children forever.

Key point. I got a storehouse for you. You walk with me, you sanctify yourself, you get access to that storehouse for eternity.

Life eternal on this earth. That was not given to the Old Testament people. That was given to the church.

God has always kept secret. The second thing to think about in this little outline is that God reveals some secrets to special people throughout history. And those special people would be his own people, believers.

So he will talk to us as Christians, followers of Christ, where he won't talk to the pagan world. He reveals stuff to you through Scripture that he doesn't reveal to the pagan world. Psalms 25.14 says the secret of the Lord is with them that hear him, and he will show them his covenant.

Uh-oh, that's another word, covenant. He has got a covenant with his church. All right, so he passes it down through his son.

His son passes it through to the church. When we're saved, we go into his body, and we become part of that covenant. So God has secrets, and he reveals those secrets through all of the redemption history and all of revelatory history to certain people, namely those who hear him, you can't hear him unless you're saved, and those who are part of his covenant.

Proverbs 3.32 says it another way, the secret. God's secret is with the righteous. Amos 3.7, he reveals his secret unto his servants, the prophets.

In Matthew 11, that's a familiar portion of Scripture. There is a very important text that speaks to this issue. Verse 25 of Matthew 11, at the time Jesus said this, I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants.

Ah, birth of the church. Not all of the ancient people. You're now revealing it to the infants, the babies of faith.

Yes, Father, for this way was pleasing, well-pleasing in your sight. It pleased God to reveal some special revelation to his people. Verse 27 then concludes this little emphasis.

All things that have been handed over to me, Christ, by my Father, God the Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal him. Your sanctification, your position, is to get Christ to reveal himself to you. And that's through obedience.

And feeding your spirit. So God decides who will know certain things, including the knowledge of the Son, and the Son is part of that. The only one who can know the Son and understand the revelation of the Son is the one to whom the Father and the Son give that revelation.

You can't get this if you don't get into the Bible, because that's where it's revealed. It doesn't come by osmosis. And it doesn't come by prayer, because prayer without understanding the Word of God, God is most likely not hearing you.

1 Corinthians 2 and verse 14, the natural man, oh natural man, we talked about that in Genesis, does not accept the things of the Spirit of God. Why? Because they're corrupt. They're this germinated body of Luciferic demonized fallen angels.

For they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them because they are spiritually appraised. In other words, they're set aside. So God has some secrets that he never reveals, and we won't know them until we get to heaven.

But God has other secrets that he reveals to special people, his Christians, and these secrets that relate to salvation as well. And the particular emphasis is the reality of the knowledge of him and his son. And there's one other thing to consider of this.

God keeps some truths hidden from everyone for ages. And then at a strategic moment, he reveals them only to the righteous, means to his children. So God has some things he never reveals.

God has other truths related to salvation that he has revealed to his children through all of redemptive history. And then God has some things that he reveals only at a certain time. We're coming up to one of those times.

These are the secrets that are described in the New Testament as mysterion, or which would get the term mysteries. They are not in themselves mysterious. It's simply a way of saying that God has not revealed these truths to anyone, non-believing or believing.

They are sacred secrets kept until the New Testament, Christ's death. Matthew 13, the words of the Lord Jesus answered them in verse 11. To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted.

He's talking to the Christians. He's saying, children, I'm going to teach you, and I'm going to give you all these mysteries of the church as you study, as you feed your soul. And as you do that, you're going to get blessed.

And if you don't, you're not. Pretty simple. Then Jesus says, I'm not done with that slide.

Then Jesus says, the kingdom of heaven has held back secrets. They have been revealed now to you, Jesus says, to his disciples. So what he's saying is, he's revealed the secrets to his disciples.

His disciples now can reveal those secrets when they are let go in Acts to the people that they're preaching to. Now, he did not reveal to the people in general. That is why he spoke to them in parables.

Remember, the disciples asked him, why are you speaking in parables? He says, because the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, they are not to know. Why do you know what those mysteries are? Because I have taught you. The term kingdom of heaven refers to the current form of the kingdom of heaven.

The period in a sense of the king's absence here on earth. Kingdom of heaven is here. It's here.

It's now. It's current. It's what we live in.

The kingdom of heaven is heaven. The kingdom of God is heaven. So we're living in the kingdom of heaven when Christ comes in the millennium and sets up his rule of his kingdom on the throne of David.

He's bringing to earth the kingdom of God. So he gives you the storehouse. Let's put all this together.

He gives you the storehouse. First off, he gives you your salvation, your ticket. Depending upon your walk, your sanctification process, the degree of that sanctification will get to the degree that it's in the storehouse.

They're yours. The degree you don't do that, you lose your inheritance in the kingdom of God in heaven. So we've been talking a lot about the kingdom, but we'll switch to the kingdom of life.

So we're living in a form of the kingdom in which the king reigns over his people spiritually while the devil reigns over the world temporarily in the sense of the complex of sin that function in human existence. And I say this body is luciferic. Your soul, your spirit, depending upon if you're saved or you're not, has one of two conditions living inside of you.

You have the spirit of the demons that we're going to get into when we get into Ephesians and the application side, but it shifts in your DNA chains when you're saved to living in the spirit. The spirit now comes and lives inside of you and seals your salvation. You can't lose your ticket.

Now, once you understand that you can't lose your ticket, it's all about your walk. It's whether or not you want to be blessed, life eternal on earth, or you don't. But that walk of sanctification defines your works that achieves your inheritance in heaven.

So if you don't do the sanctification on earth, you're not going to get inheritance in heaven. That's why I said some people are going to go to heaven with their ticket and wish what in the world is going on because now I'm on the outside. I have nothing.

I have no reward. I have no inheritance. Why? Faith without works is dead.

The king is here. Salvation is here. Blessing is here.

Rest is here. Peace is here. All the fruit of the spirit, eternal life on this earth, but these are not eternal.

They're internal. That's where we bless. All of those things are in our spirit.

That's what our spirit gives to us as we feed the spirit. Okay, let's step back. I've said that you have to anoint God before God anoints you.

We have forgotten that the internal God that lives inside of us is the Holy Spirit. And we have not anointed that Holy Spirit with any food. And yet we expect to be blessed.

You guys see the connection? We're in a trinity. God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. They're all God.

Some of you were trying to figure out how do you anoint God? Well, you anoint God because he's inside of you. And you anoint him with your sanctification law. Colossians 2 talks about the true knowledge of God's mystery.

That is Christ himself in whom are hidden all of the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. The Holy Spirit inside of you has every answer you ever need if you would feed the spirit. He's not going to show himself until you anoint him.

And then in verse nine, in him all the fullness of deity dwells in bodily form. It is you. It is you.

That's the mystery of the incarnate God. We are the temple of God. God dwells inside of us.

We're in Christ. We have access to all of Christ's blessings. We have to anoint God to get access to those blessings, and the anointing of God to get access is through the growth of your spiritual incarnate God, meaning you are feeding him because you're studying and you're obedient.

Okay? Secondly, there's the mystery of the indwelling Christ. If you back up a little in Colossians 1, 26, 27, we did this, we went through this, we went through all of the seven mysteries. The mystery which had been hidden from the past ages and generations, which is what defines a mystery, has now been manifested to his saints, to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of his glory and of this mystery among the Gentiles.

These are not given to the Jews in the Old Testament. This is to the church. We have something different, which is Christ in you, the hope of the Lord.

The Old Testament didn't see God becoming a man clearly. That's the clue. And I've given you some more stuff there, but I'm going to continue on.

There's the mystery of the rapture. Then there is the mystery of the unbelief of Israel, the mystery of the indwelling Christ, the mystery of his will. All of these mysteries are identified in scripture as it relates to the mystery to the church.

There's the mystery as a bride, mystery that God becoming a man, mystery of the bride of Christ, the mystery of the gospel. All of these are mysteries because they weren't given to the Old Testament people. They were given to the church.

So it's the indwelling of Christ in us that gives us the ability to access all of the blessings in God's storehouse while we're living this life eternal on earth. Now, if you can grasp that, you're going to understand what Paul is going to tell us in the book of Ephesians. What the rulebook is is not a physical rulebook.

It's a spiritual rulebook. What the play or the application book is not a physical application. It's a spiritual application because it has to happen in the spirit before it gets manifested in the physical.

If you don't do your spiritual work, you're not going to get the blessings in the physical form. And that choice tells us how to participate in this plan. What it is that brings us into this plan, verse 13 of chapter 2, being in Christ Jesus, who formerly were far off, have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

That's salvation. It says at that point, verse 14, he is our peace who made both groups, Jews and Gentiles, in one and broke down the barrier, the dividing wall, abolishing in the flesh the enmity, which is the law of the commandments contained in ordinances, so that in himself he might make the two into one man. That's the reason why the law was abolished when Christ died.

This established peace. He reconciles them both to God through the cross, and that is the unity of the body of Christ. So that's how you understand the broad essence of what Paul is telling us in the book of Ephesians.

The mystery is revealed. The church begins with chapter 1, where God lays out this plan according to his purpose. It then goes to chapter 2, which tells us how that plan is activated through the life-giving and unifying gospel of Jesus Christ.

It comes into chapter 3 and says that this gospel brings together Jews and Gentiles into one body. In fact, chapter 3 ends, and it's probably be good to look at at your time, the prayer at the end of the first three chapters, which basically are doctrinal. This is Paul.

For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father honoring. This is honoring. I bow.

I honor God on my knees before the Father, not Christ. You don't pray to Christ. You pray to the Father who from whom every family in heaven and earth derives its name.

Oh, that's that stone name. Remember, that is that name that you get when you say your DNA changes that he would grant you according to the riches of his glory to be strengthened with power. You can't get the power unless you get the Holy Spirit and you're not going to have any power unless you feed the Holy Spirit in the inner man.

That's what it says. If you don't feed that spirit in the inner man, you don't get any power. So that Christ may literally settle down in your heart, settle down.

In other words, come to rest. OK, I'm coming home. I'm bringing you home.

I'm coming to your home. OK. Through faith.

In other words, that is the basis of your attainment of everything is through faith that you being rooted and grounded in love may be able to comprehend. OK, let's think about this. It tells you right here, you won't comprehend unless you begin your sanctification walk and studying to grow your spirit.

You won't have any understanding and wisdom. You see what your position is. Are you beginning to get it real quick right here? First one.

So we're talking here in these opening chapters about comprehension of these mysteries, comprehension of these doctrinal realities that you may comprehend with all the saints. What is the breadth, length, height and depth? Oh, dimensions. Right, there's dimensions.

Four dimensions. We live in a four dimensional world. That's what we can see.

And to know the love of Christ, which surpasses knowledge. The Holy Spirit has all of your answers and it surpasses your knowledge, your knowledge, not Christ's knowledge, your knowledge. That you may be filled up.

To all the fullness of God. So Paul is praying that we would be able to apprehend, comprehend these grace truths. Then chapters four through six.

This is about application, apprehension and then application. Chapter four. First one begins this way.

Therefore, I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk. Walk, sanctification, walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called. We're all elected to come to salvation and through that salvation, that's your calling.

And you're supposed to walk after that salvation in moving yourself through the sanctification process of growing your spirit. And the final three chapters are practical ways in which we live our lives in line with our theology, theology, our rule book. Now, that's kind of a way to look at this whole possible thematically.

But I want you to give you another look at it, maybe looking at a diamond from a different angle. A letter is a treasure house. You're going to find that all riches of heaven are going to be basically provided for you in this incredible apostle.

Chapter one, seven speaks of the riches of his grace. Chapter three, 16 speaks of the riches of his glory. Chapter three, eight, the riches of Christ.

Grace makes us rich. Glory makes us rich. Price makes us rich.

Father. Son. Holy Spirit.

Grace is mentioned 12 times in this book. Glory is mentioned eight times. Inheritance mentioned four times.

Riches five times. Fullness three times. Filled four times.

And this is what sums it all up. In Christ. You're in Christ.

When you say you become in Christ is mentioned 27 times. Our riches are in Christ by grace with glory in Christ. The marvelous epistle talks about the fullness of God.

We're going to get heavily into that. OK, it talks about the fullness of Christ. Chapter four, 13, it talks about the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

Chapter 518. It talks is a Trinitarian in its comprehension. Being full in Christ means that this Holy Spirit has filled you up when you were saved.

You not only receive the Holy Spirit, but you receive the fullness of Christ. But that dwindles. The fullness of Christ dwindles.

Because you're not feeding it. You're not feeding your soul. That's where the fullness is.

So this is a treasure house of blessing. When Paul begins by saying we are blessed with all the spiritual blessings in the heavenlies, he's introducing us to the mysteries that have come to be revealed and unfolded to us and the treasures that grace and glory in Christ have granted to us. Everything is in Christ.

I can't put any. I'm going to put it another way. You own nothing.

Everything is in Christ. Your position is a steward. Your access is a steward.

Your access is based upon your obedience and your sanctification law. In Christ we fulfill God's will. In Christ we receive God's grace.

In Christ we are granted glory. In Christ is power. In Christ is love.

In Christ is the fulfillment of God's good pleasure, good pleasure, blessings. In Christ God's purpose comes to fruition. In Christ is our calling, our inheritance.

And in Christ we can't produce the works of God. Can't produce the works of God if you're not walking that sanctification law. So we're going to have the mysteries unfolded and the treasure house of heaven open up for us to understand.

And I want to just remind you that verse three of chapter one is a statement of fact. We're going to go back to this. Who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens and Christ.

It's a statement of fact that belongs as a promised to every true Christian. So I'm going to allow the rest of this for your reading. You get the picture, you get the picture.

This is just more of that. You can read this on your own and study it. I wanna get into the actual chapter.

I wanna get into the verses. We're gonna run out of time and I wanna make sure I get there. Paul, an apostle of Christ by the will of God to the saints, which are in Ephesus and to the faithful in Christ.

Paul, original name was Saul in Acts 7.58, after King Saul, also a Benjamite. The Benjamites were known for their warrior temperament, festy, tough. Paul was born in Tarsus as a freeborn Roman citizen.

He was schooled in Hellenistic culture and had parasitical training by Gamaliel himself. Paul means small. Paul wrote with authority of the epistle.

Apostolos means sent one. And in the New Testament, it was used as the official title of men. God uniquely chose to be the foundation layers of the church and the receivers, teachers, and writers of his final revelation.

The New Testament, Christ's will and testament. Okay, guys, this is the legal transfer of Christ's will and testament. You guys got that, right? It is basically his estate and it's transferred in the New Testament to the church.

The apostolos duties were to preach the gospels, 1 Corinthians, teach and pray, Acts 6, work miracles, 2 Corinthians, build up the leaders of the church, Acts 14, and write the word of God, Ephesians 1.1, and et cetera. Besides the original 12 and Matthias in Acts 1.26, who replaced Judas, Paul was the only other apostle, as it were one untimely born, 1 Corinthians 15.8, yet he was no tenor fair to the other apostles having met all the requirements for that office. In other words, Christ met him on the road to Damascus, revealed himself to him.

So Paul met all the requirements to become an apostle. Paul's credentials were none of academic training or his rabbinical leadership, but his being an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, right here. An apostle of Jesus Christ, part one, by the will of God, part two.

In studying the truth, Paul was not boasting of personal merit or about evaluating himself other than to other believers. He well remembered that he had been a blasphemer or violent prosecutor of the church and an unworthy and ignorant unbeliever. And he still considered himself the foremost sinner.

And he wrote that in 1 Timothy's letter. By the will of God. Paul did not choose his occupation, neither did the church.

The epistle will bring us face to face with the sovereignty of God and the mystery of his will. This is discussed over six times in the book of Ephesians. Saints, we're all saints.

This is not like a canonization through the Catholic church. Saints is a way of just identifying believers. And I've given you all kinds of scriptures referenced to this, but we're not Vatican tribunal saints.

We're saints because we're a believer. That's it. Which are in Ephesians, Ephesus.

The epistle to the Ephesians was a circular letter. Remember what I said? It was a blank. You could fill in the church and it circulated around.

So it could have gone to all churches in the local area. Okay, and we get this via the scriptures as well. To the faithful in Jesus Christ.

In Jesus Christ, as I said, is used 27 times in the letter. Paul always emphasized the name of Christ, the mantled title. His surname was Yahshua, but his mantle was Christ.

A member of the body of Christ, battle united with him by baptism of the Holy Spirit. First Corinthians 12, 12, 13. Paul was given the keys to the kingdom of God.

Up to down ministry. Up to down ministry. Okay.

God is, God says, okay, church, everything that you experience will be done in the heavens first and given to you. Paul, go teach him that. That's what up and down ministry is.

That's what the kingdom, that's the reason why God gave Paul the keys of the kingdom because he's bringing heaven down to earth. Paul was to teach the Gentiles about God's kingdom in heaven to live that life eternal on earth. Preaching the kingdom of God and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no man for beating him in acts.

We see this again in Romans. For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Now, putting this together to the saints, reference into the faithful in Jesus Christ.

For God's side, okay, two different views of this. For God's side, believers are those whom he hath made holy. He called you.

He made you holy, which is the meaning of saints. For man's side, the believers are those who are faithful, those who have trusted in Christ Jesus as their Lord, Adonai, and Savior. Now, every Christian is a saint because Christians have been set apart and made holy through the perfect righteousness of Christ that has been placed to his account, okie dokie.

You have a financial account in heaven. When Christ died on the cross and shed his blood, that blood sits on the mercy seat, the true mercy seat in heaven. The one that we have on earth is a replica.

We find that in Hebrews, okay? So the true mercy seat is in heaven. And as people get saved, Christ takes his blood and puts it in your account, which takes your account from a sin account to a 100% credit score, which is a 100% credit score in Christ. Your account gets added to or taken away.

Your financial account is your inheritance account. I hope you're getting this. So he's giving you everything in inheritance and he's giving you everything in his storehouse, but you have to walk in faith, sanctification, feeding your Holy Spirit by your reading of the word and doing the good works and righteousness works of God.

Those works add to that financial account or take it away. That's how inheritance works in heaven. When a person acts in faith to receive Christ, God acts in grace to give that person Christ's own righteousness, opening the door to your inheritance.

I just said that, okay? It is Christ's perfect righteousness, not a person's own character or accomplishments, no matter how great you may seem in man's eyes, that established every believer is one of God's saints through saving faith. Ephesians 1, 2. Grace. Grace is a Greek word, karis, or hello.

It's used 12 times in Ephesians. Grace is also mentioned first, the very first time. Only after grace has dealt with the sin question can peace be known.

Romans 5, 1. Prayer, guys, let's talk about this. First thing you do is you praise the Father. You provide him notification, know who he is and what his position is.

Then you deal with sin. If you don't deal with sin, he's not gonna hear you. So your open message, Father, how great they are.

Praise be your name, blessed your sovereign power, whatever you feel led at the time in your prayer to do. The next thing you gotta hit is sin. Through his grace, you are forgiven.

And if you don't deal with sin, you're not gonna get your prayer heard. We're gonna get into that when we get into prayer. Now, because you have dealt with his sovereignty and because you have next led with the issue of sin, now you get peace.

What's peace? You get all of these protective things, trespassing, all of this stuff that you can go after now with your needs. Go to Romans 5, 1 and read about it. In Christian theology, the spontaneous unmerited gift of the divine favor is the salvation of sinners.

It gives it to you freely. Here it is. That's your ticket.

And the divine influence operating in individuals for their regeneration. Okay? Your body change, you become a new body. We've already talked about this in the sub stack over and over again.

And we're learning minute details today. But that's called justification, the redemption of your sin. And glorification means you get a body at the end of this, whatever that might be.

You get a glorified body. And sanctification is the continual renewing and growth of your spirit. That is your life eternal on earth.

And without it, you're not useful and fruitful. You have no works. Therefore you don't have an inheritance in heaven.

Grace be to you. It's a common way of greeting. Okay.

We talked about this. Not gonna go through this in detail here because we've already talked about it. And you guys can read it here.

And I've given you another scripture reference to look at it as well. Peace. Peace in Hebrew is shalom or hello.

Well, so is grace in Greek is hello. Church, Jews, Gentiles, and one body of Christ. The foundation of the mystery of the church, the peace that passes all understanding.

Be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication. With thanksgiving, let your requests be known unto God and the peace of God, which passes understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ. What is this telling you? You pray the correct way.

You acknowledge him as to who he is, his authority over all things. You deal with the sin issue, whatever that might be. Now this becomes very difficult in group prayer sessions.

Just think about it. How can you guys be one together in your prayer if people are not dealing with the sin, the next thing in the prayer cycle? Can't. And then in everything, what he's saying is, you're a steward in everything, whatever comes your way, in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving.

In other words, you are submitting to him. He's ruling your life. You know your position in this process.

And you know you need to be walking in sanctification. When he sees that, he trusts you. And because of that, what it tells you right here, let your requests be known unto God.

He didn't say, tailor your request. He said, let your requests know. Why? Because he'll give it to you.

We're gonna get into that in scripture. Yes, Sam. So when we pray, do we forgive our sins as well as the other person then? If you're praying, your prayer in that group is not gonna be heard if you don't deal with your sin issue.

Okay, thank you for clarifying that. Okay, now let's go one step further. If you're praying on behalf of someone else, okay, you do not pray for the healing for that person.

You pray to have Christ remove the body from the sin that caused that sickness. Because if you don't remove the body from the sin, you've left the legal door open. Follow that? What's the body? It's not this physical body.

What's the body? It's the spiritual body. Everything does happen spiritually first. So spiritually, if you wanna heal something physically, you gotta handle it spiritually first.

That's the reason why Christ went after the soul of everybody he healed. He didn't heal their affliction, he healed their soul. Because it needed to be healed spiritually first before it could be physically being healed.

We go backwards with this. We're praying for physical healing. No, no, no, no, no, no.

That legal door is still open and sickness is just flowing right through. It looks like a eight lane freeway inside of you. That legal door is wide open.

Diesel trucks is rolling down the road. And we're trying to do this physically. We can't do that.

We gotta go back and do this spiritually. So you gotta remove the spiritual body from the sickness. That's the legal door that's open in the spiritual that's causing a physical illness.

So my question on that then, is that present and past only? Or closing those legally? It can happen in the past, but you're closing them in the present. Okay. You can't deal with the past.

You can't go back and correct the past. Nor can you set it up for the future. The future is going to be what you do today.

The earth went away. Then that's why he would say, go and sin no more. Correct.

He was dealing with the sin. He says, I've healed your soul. Don't sin no more and you're gonna be healed.

Okay. Okay. So think about this.

We went through this with the sickness and disease class. Sickness and disease is the outcome of a spiritual manifestation of sin. Now, sickness can be across everything.

It's not just a physical sickness. You can have a financial sickness. You can have a relationship sickness.

You could have a health sickness for sure. You can have emotional sickness. You can have all of these sicknesses.

That is the outcome of the soul's manifestation of sin. So if somebody were to come to us and say, pray for me, I got real, real financial difficulties. Well, I really wanna talk to them because basically the financial difficulty started because they didn't obey God.

That's the first thing. If you have a financial difficulties, look at your time. Look at your offerings.

All right. If you're not doing any of that, you're gonna end up with financial death. And that's because of the sin.

The sin of disobedience, not doing what it is a stewardship is being told to do. And therefore that legal door is like a freight train going down a track at 110 miles an hour with no end in sight. So that's where you've got to deal with this issue.

Everything we experience in this physical life starts in our spiritual life. I hope that's coming through now. All right, let's continue.

Our father, one who is intimately near or accessible relationship by new birth alone. Oh, here's another thing. You can't pray unless you're a Christian, spiritually filled.

It says right here, new birth. You gotta be born again to pray to our father. In that over cometh, will I make a pillar in the temple of my God and he shall no more out.

And I will write upon him the name of my God, your name, your new name, guys. And the name of the city of God, which is New Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven for my God. And I will write upon him my new name, Revelation.

He that hath an ear, let him hear. You can't hear unless you're saved. He that hear what the spirit saith unto the churches, to him that overcometh.

We're now going through that. I'm writing a whole lot of stuff for you guys of overcoming specific things, giving you examples of how that works so that you can apply whatever you need to to your own lives, to overcome whatever that issue might be in those categories. Therefore, if any man be Christ, he's a new creature.

You have a new body. You have a new DNA. All things have passed away.

What you were born with is gone. All things become new. Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord Jesus Christ is a title. Title. It's a name.

And it's a mission. Lord, title. Jesus, name.

Mission, Christ, mission. His mantle. Following this brief salutation, the apostle lifts his voice in a magnificent hymn of praise, soaring into some of the sublimest heights of the New Testament worship.

What is worship? Worship, prayer, reading of scripture, exaltation of his name and what he did for us to others, singing praise, thinking about him, acting like a follower of Christ and being obedient from our father and from the Lord Jesus. This is a dual source of blessing. Paul says, I come to you with dual source and the third source is inside of me.

So he basically is saying is I'm coming with the full weight and power of the Trinitarian Godhead. Can't get any more powerful than this. Those are not separated, distinct sources, but two manifestation of the same source, as indicated by the connective chi, which means and, this chi is in Greek here, but it means and, which can indicate equivalence and here indicates that the Lord Jesus Christ is deity, just like God our father.

Paul's message throughout this epistle is that believers might understand and experience more fully all of the blessings granted by their heavenly father and son through their savior Christ Jesus. You're in him, you're in Christ, you're in Christ, you're in Christ. Holy Spirit's in you, in you, you're the temple.

Beginning in chapter one, verses 13 to 14, we find Paul's tracing God's activity in salvation from eternity past through eternity future, including the mystery of God's will, which was not yet disclosed from the beginning of time. So let's look at verse three. Guys, mute yourself.

Ephesians 1, 3, blessed be the God or our father of the Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with all special blessing in heavenly places in Christ. In heavenly, in the heavenlies means places in contradistinction, sorry, to that which is earthly. Well, storehouse, storehouse, storehouse.

In other words, hey guys, cut your mics off, please. Do I have to get out of this and go do that? No, just keep my head down. Studying is shit, should've studied in high school.

Don? Don? My baby worse. My baby worse. Couldn't go to Iraq with you.

Shit, I'm shit. I just need to come down here, she said some bullshit. Okay, we're a foreign citizen living in, we're a foreign citizen living in a foreign land.

When you become saved, you become a citizen of heaven living in the foreign land called earth. You're just passing through. Now think about this.

If you're a foreign citizen, you got to not be a foreign citizens in this physical body because this blood and flesh can't inherit the kingdom of God. So it's your soul and spirit that become foreign citizens. If you're foreign citizens, why do you not think that you can go to the storehouse, the unlimited bank that's up there and not get what you want? Okay.

And you manifest them in the physical form. Where in time past, you walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience and fictions too. This is how you're born.

Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. All things are passed away. Behold, all things become new.

This is what happens when you're saved. For our conversation, citizenship is in heaven. From whence also we look for the savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall change our vile body that it may be fashioned.

Think about everything we've learned in the sub-step. Of who you really are. Fashioned, likened to his glorious body.

When you're saved, your internal body looks like Christ. To the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself. Blessings, spiritual blessings.

Their quantity, it says all. There's no limitation, all. Their quality, with all.

There's no quality issues. Their locality, all are in heaven already given to us. It's in your bank account.

You just gotta go right to check. Through sanctification, your walk with Christ. So the sphere of our spiritual blessings, Ephesians 1.3. The scene of Christ present in Thronemon is Ephesians 1.20. The scene of our president in him is Ephesians 2.6. The local form which angels witness God's wisdom in, exhibited in the church is Ephesians 3.10. The region which the source of our present conflict with evil spirits is Ephesians 6.12. Guys, we've got the playbook right here in this, in Christ.

He's 27 times already said that. Their instrumentality is in Christ. In Christ, the key to this apostle, it's a key to your life.

Your position, in Adam being man, or in Christ being filled with the Holy Spirit. What is the basis? What is your basis before God? That's your choice. In every decision you make, in everything you did to live, in everything you understand about being able to get, obtain blessings on this life eternal on earth, it is this basis, your choice.

Are you going to live with you? Are you going to live in Christ? That's the key. Our identity in Christ. I've given you all of the conditions of that with all the scripture references that you can go pull up for your study.

Believer's position are perfect, Hebrews 10.4. Are dead to sin, Romans 6. This is your, this is sanctification. You're dead to sin. If you're sanctified, you're dead to sin.

Sin can't come into you. Are you a holy nation? First Peter 2.9. Believers practice. We should be perfect.

Should reckon themselves dead to sin. And those, this is our walk towards total sanctification and should be holy. Jesus Christ's last statement.

Jesus wrote his last will and testament for his church. After the Jewish nation rejected him, his last will and testament for his church is for the Gentiles. Making it possible for us to share his spiritual riches, blessings on this earth, life eternal.

He wrote us into his will and died so that the will would be enforced. There's no decisions being made to go to your store. His last will and testament, your inheritance has been sealed.

It's enforced. He did that because of his blood. Then he rose again, that he might become our heavenly advocate to make sure that the terms of the will were correctly followed.

He is our executor of our heavenly blessings in the life eternal and the eternal life. Life eternal, you get blessings. Eternal life, you get inheritance.

God's blueprint. He chose us in Christ. We were elected.

He predestined us to the place of our sonship. He adopted us. He made us accepted in the beloved.

He made us accepted because he shed his blood to do that. So chapter one topics, all of the topics that we're gonna discuss in chapter one, blessings of our riches in Christ, the election, the predestination, redemption, adoption, the will and testament of God, 12 mysteries, dispensations, forgiveness, inherits, sealing. And this is all just in chapter one, your rule book.

The theme of this whole thing is our riches in Christ. Ephesus was considered the bank of Asia, a depository for wealth. No Paul's use of financial words, inheritance, fullness or filled.

And he's talking, the bank was physical and he's talking spiritual. I'm just gonna go through four and five because I wanted to close some points. So according as he had chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him.

And look, he has chosen us. When? Before the foundation of the world. That means that we're an elect.

Spurgeon said this, I am glad he did it then. If he saw me now, he might've changed his mind. Election.

You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you. John 15, 16. The lost sinner left his own ways, does not seek God.

Romans, God in his love seeks the sinner. Luke, offers bona fide to everyone. The last chance, the last choice to be lost.

You choose, this is your choice, guys. Both elements are that are given come, all that come are received. God does choose men to salvation.

Believers are elect according to foreknowledge of God. That's the Holy Spirit's conviction. People can know whether they are elected by their response to the gospel.

They who hear and believe are the elect. His purpose will not be completely realized until we see him in heaven, and Israel was chosen through Abraham and not for any merit. The election process in both Old Testament and New.

Hebrew and Greek, elect, election, choose, are chosen, all mean to choose of both divine and human choices. Here's the paradigm of divine volition. You have foreknowledge, you're elected, you're predestined, and you have a destiny.

Foreknowledge determines election, predestined brings past to election, election looks back to foreknowledge, predestination looks forward to destiny. This is how God works with regards to election to salvation. Divine election.

You have a corporate, Israel, Isaiah 45, and the church, Ephesians 1.14. The nation is corporate, the church is corporate. It's not an individual, it's a group. It's called corporate.

Individual, according to the foreknowledge of God, holy of grace, not human merit, whereby are chosen himself for destined service. Okay, so I have given you three sermons to review here to better understand the election. In Ephesians, the study of Ephesians, when you go to this teaching on the handouts is a link to these three as well, okay? Ephesians 1.5. Having predestined us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ himself, according to the good pleasure of Israel, to define, to make out, to set apart, to arise in Ephesians 1.11. Having predestined definite past act done.

The term is only used referring to God's purposes for his people. Predestination has to do with God's purpose with his people. It refers only to those who are saved.

Election is people of God, who his children. Predestination, those chosen people are predestined for the purposes of God. That's what this means, okay? You still have a choice of free will.

Placing as a sign, I've given you some scripture, predestination is God's guarantee. We need to know that we have been chosen in him in order to stand for God today. Adoption, it's a Roman term, not a Jewish practice.

Not all offspring were heirs. You do not get into God's family by adoption. You get into his family by regeneration, the new birth, DNA change.

Adoption is the act of God by which he gives his born ones an adult standing in the family so they can immediately begin to what? Claim our inheritance and enjoy our spiritual wealth here on earth. And if it cannot legally use this inheritance, but an adult one can and should. The future aspect of the adoption is in Romans 8, 22, 23.

Okay, you guys got that. Now, let's conclude this because I want to give you guys a chance for Q&A. The Christian risks completely on his Christ completed work.

The greatest mistake any Christian you can make is substitute your own will for the will of God. Sanctification versus you. Why did he do it? For his good pleasure.

He would not be satisfied until he had surrounded himself with sons conformed to the image of his only begotten son with him and like him forever. Okay, this finishes up verses one, two, three of chapter one. So study assignment, this is how you set yourself up.

Read the book of Ephesians this week and read chapter one and understand its details until we get through it. And then we'll go to chapter two. All right, questions, comments.

I just appreciate the clarification on the prayer session, Jim. That really helps me out a lot. Yeah, it helps all of us.

Yeah. Victoria. Can you speak to how we visualize we are in Christ? Because I was reading through Romans and I kept getting like, you're in Christ, you're in Christ.

And Christ is in us, I can sense that, but I don't understand how we are in him to give me maybe a better, a more visual. And I think Romans 16, 17, 18, or 16, 17 was talking about what you brought up. And it really hit a chord with me about our salvation is according to, I'm driving, so I'm not looking at the scripture, our limit of study, maybe our inheritance is limited to the amount maybe that we studied, something to that effect.

But I don't understand how we are in him, in him. Because we're the church and he's the body, the church is the body of Christ. So we become- So just like one big blob? Yeah, just like one big, he might be his toenail, okay? Oh, that's why you said that before.

Oh, okay. So visually I see him like he was a man, like physically. Yeah, we're in his body, his body, okay? Because remember, he's spiritual, he's spiritual.

So therefore we can all be part of his spiritual nature. We can all be part of him as a spirit being, because remember, we got him in us. So if he's in us, we gotta be in him.

So basically he's just like everywhere. I mean, even for a single people who have him as a husband, I'd always try to wrap my mind around that. I think he's just everywhere.

And then you talked about length, depth, and weight. Go ahead, I'm sorry. Yeah, go ahead.

Well, that just hit me with the dimensions. The dimensions, like, that's the dimensions we keep talking about. And I get, oh, that light bulb just went off for me on that one as well.

But so, okay, so think of him as a body. Real body, I mean. Okay, so now, okay, all right.

So now let's put it into minute quantum physics. Everything's made of atoms. Spirit, ether, everything is made of atoms.

There's not one thing. If you did this, okay, you just stirred atoms all over the place, because atoms are everywhere. Okay, hold that concept.

Christ came in two atom formats. He came in the spiritual side, because he was impregnated by, and married with the Holy Spirit, therefore it wasn't a human side of things. And he came in the physical side as the son of man.

So what he did was embody into one body, physical body, two dimensions, spiritual and physical. Now, our soul and our spirit, our Holy Spirit is him, it's him. It's a Godhead, it's him, it's Christ, it's God.

And that spirit inside of us wants to control the electrical currents that tell the atoms of our body what to do. The observer, as we talked about, what, Tuesday night, maybe, I think, observer? Yeah. And our atoms spiritually are connected to all atoms in the spiritual world.

So whether or not you visually look upon him as a man, that somebody's his toenail and fingernail and eyelash and whatever, you can say our spirit, the reason why we're in him, is because his spirit's in us, because all atoms are connected. Isn't that where you get, where we go one, we go all? Well, yeah, I mean, that's a pagan phrase, a phrase that, yeah, means that we're all connected. And, you know, that's, yes, that's not scriptural.

But we are all connected, right? We are, yeah, yeah. But that's pagan? It's a pagan phrase, it didn't come out of the Bible. Okay.

Okay, all right. So how come we're using that so much, I wonder? Because it's a societal norm phrase. Okay, okay.

Victoria, did that help you? Yeah, yes, extremely. Oh, my goodness. And then the Holy Spirit, I know we don't pray the Holy Spirit, but there's times when I go throughout my day and I'm not thinking about being grateful to the Holy Spirit.

Do you find that just, you say, praising God is still, that's still God. So I feel like I'm leaving the Holy Spirit out. Does that make sense? No, but you're not leaving the Holy Spirit out if you're addressing the Father, because the Holy Spirit is the Father.

Yes, yeah, so yeah, I just answered, yes. Thank you, excellent, thank you. Okay, guys, is the rule book initial start coming into view? Oh, yeah.

Coming into view, okay. Okay, so anything else, guys? Sure, done with this? We're good to go? All right, shut it down. Thank you, Jim.