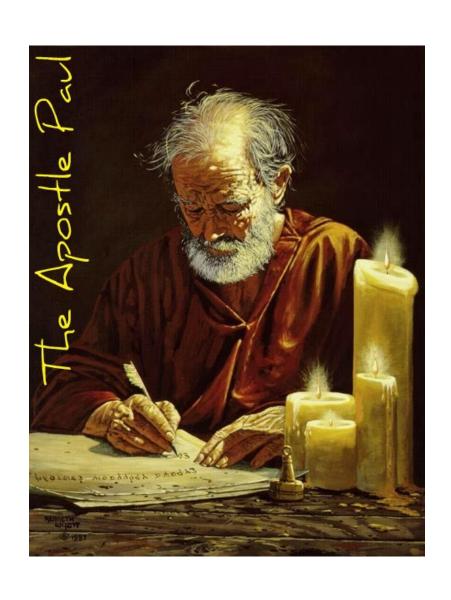
[Ephesians] Lesson 1 **God Has Given All Spiritual Blessings** to Those in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 1:1-14)

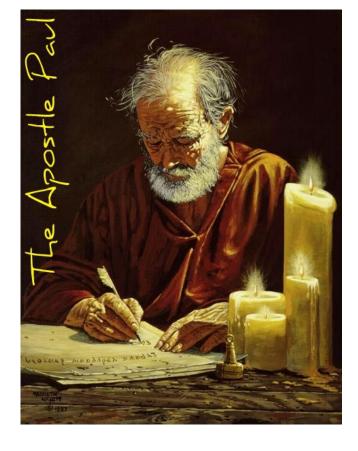
#### 1. Paul Wrote the Book of Ephesians

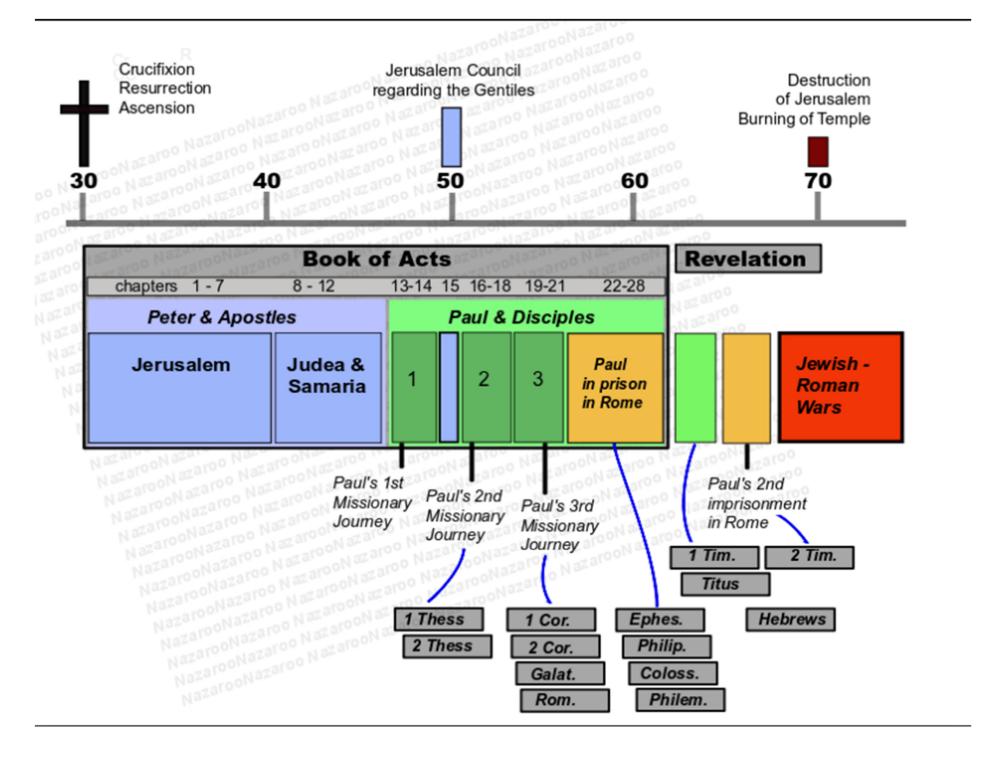


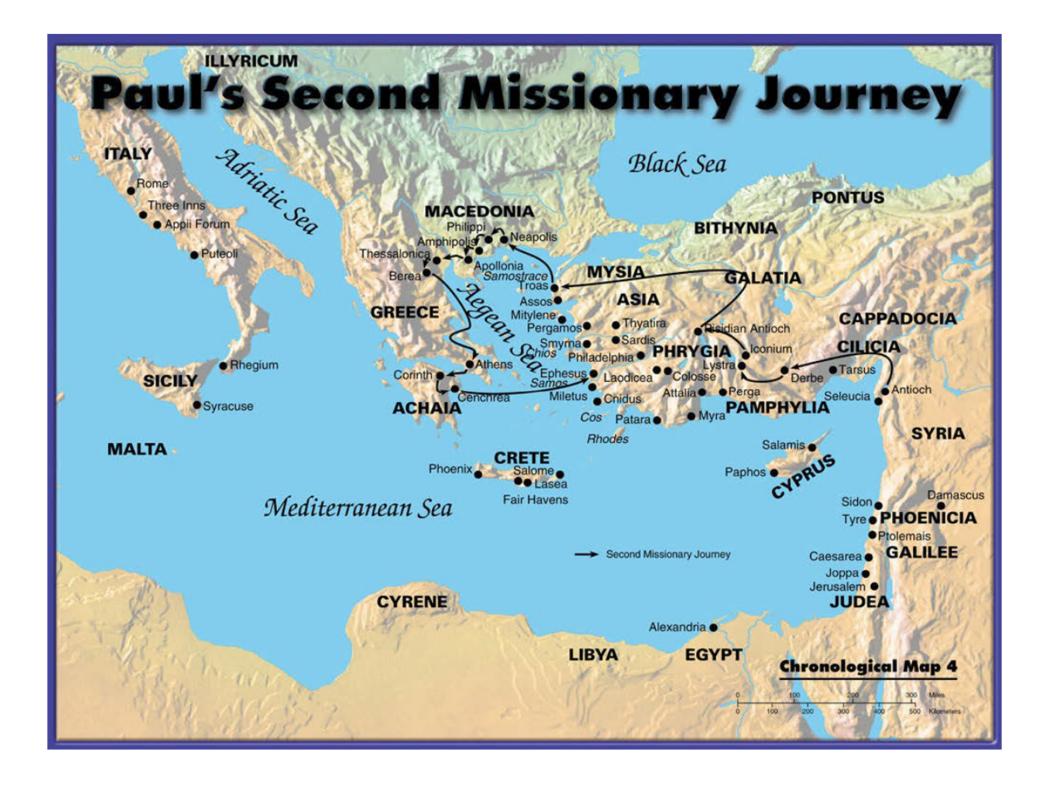
#### (Ephesians 1:1)

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

Jesus:



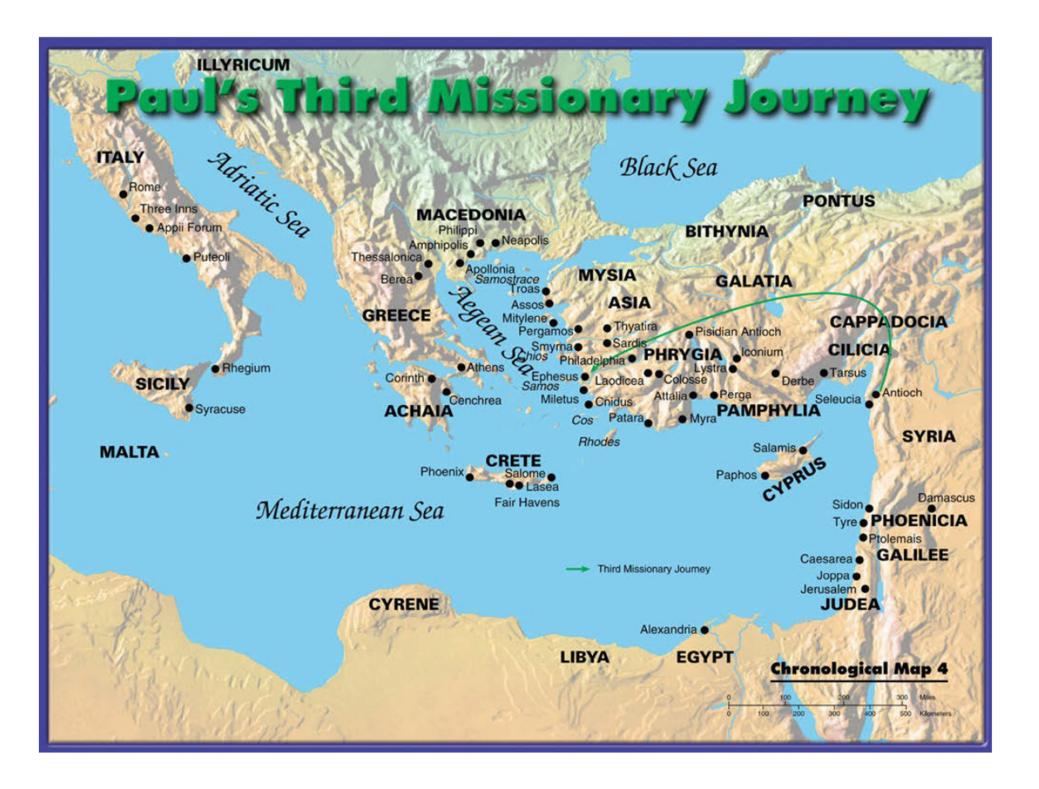




[Acts 18:19-21] During Paul's 2'nd missionary journey, He preached the Gospel for a short time in Ephesus.

They wanted Paul to stay longer, but Paul said, "No, I must quickly go to Jerusalem, but if God allows, I will come again".





[Acts 19:10] During Paul's 3'rd missionary journey, Paul taught in Ephesus for 3 years.

The Gospel spread all over the city of Ephesus and the area of Asia.

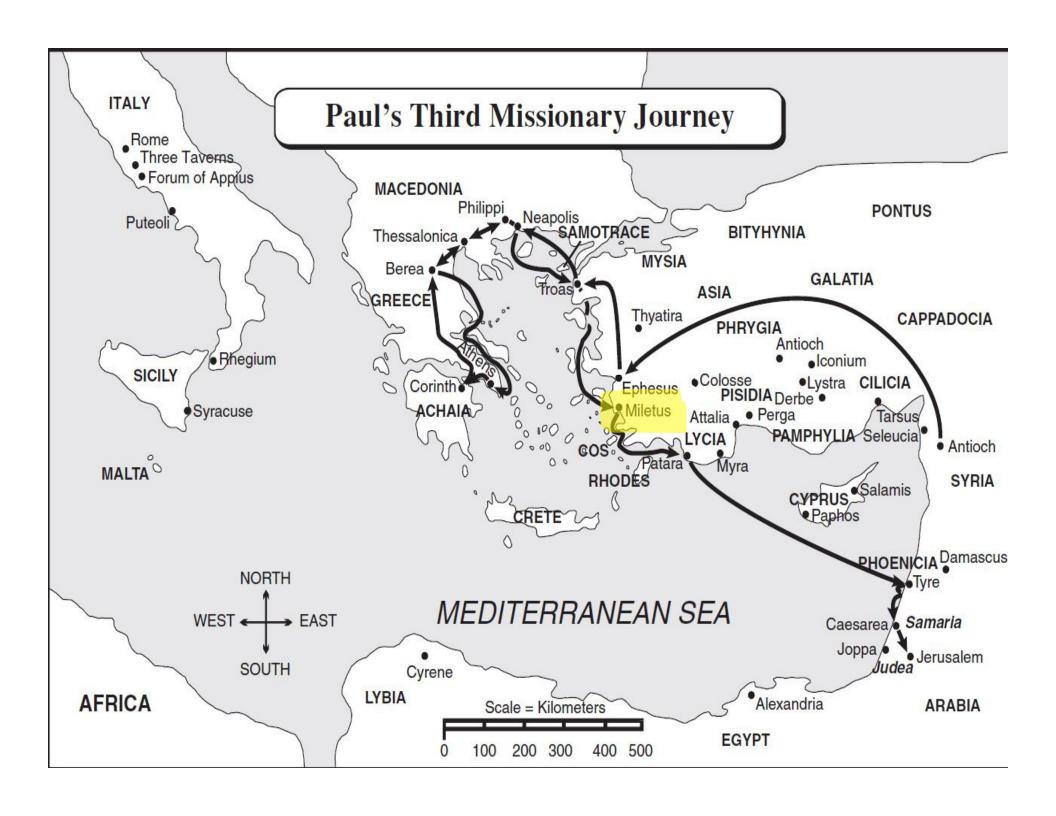


[Acts 19:19] Many people repented destroying their magic books and idols.



[Acts 20:1] There was a great riot against Paul and Christians, so Paul left Ephesus.

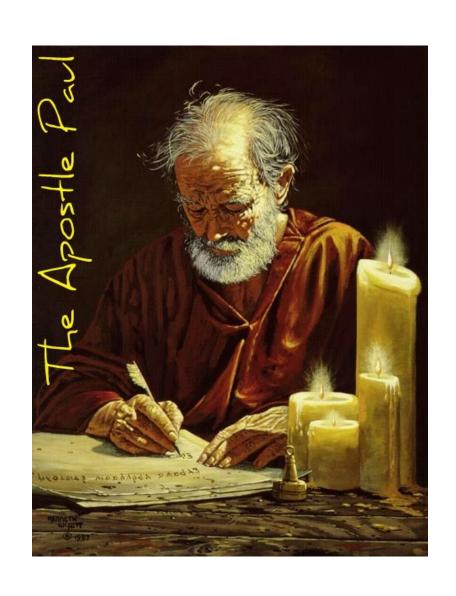




[Acts 20:16-17] Before the end of Paul's 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary journey and as Paul was going to Jerusalem, he stopped near Ephesus in Miletus. There Paul met with the leaders of the Ephesus church to encourage them to be faithful.



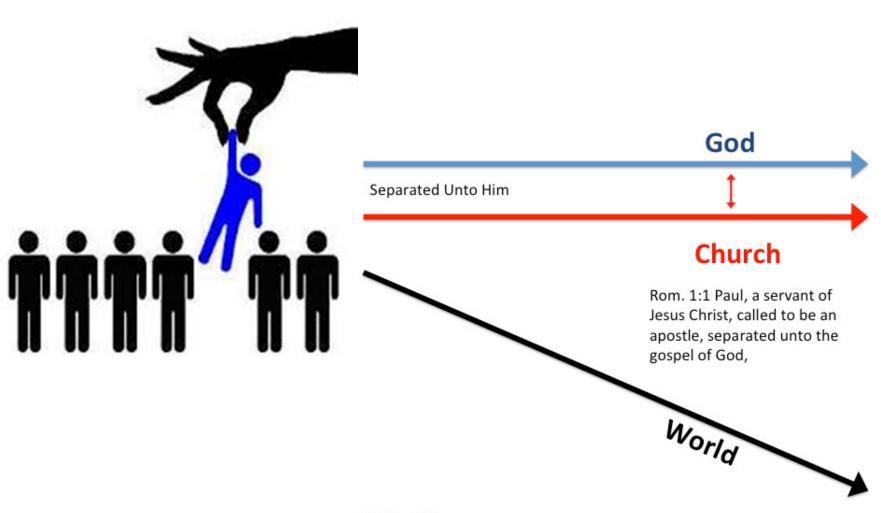
# 2. Paul Greeted the Believers in Ephesus



(Eph. 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 Christ Jesus:

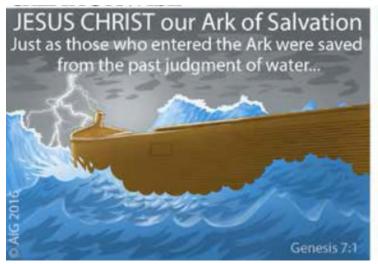
- \*Paul wrote a letter to the church in Ephesus.
- \*[Acts 9:15] Jesus chose and sent Paul to preach the Gospel to the Gentiles, Jews, and kings.
- \*"Saints" = (holy people) people <u>separated</u> from sin and the world to serve only God.

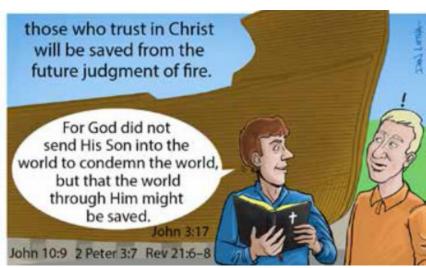
# "Saints" = (holy people) people separated from sin and the world to serve only God.



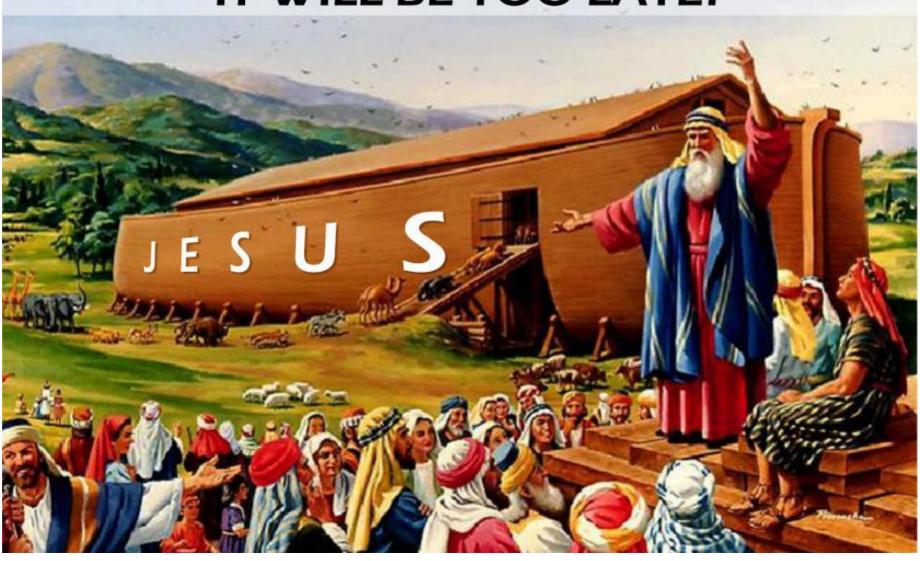
(Eph. 1:1) Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

- \*People trusting their lives and eternity to Jesus.
- \* In Jesus Christ is salvation.





#### GET INTO THE ARK NOW, SOON IT WILL BE TOO LATE!



(Eph 1:2) **Grace** be <mark>to you</mark>, and **peace**, **from God** our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

- \*God wants believers to experience (feel/know) His grace and peace.
- \*God wants His **grace** to strengthen us and His **peace** to control our minds.

# 3. God Has Blessed All Believers with All Spiritual Blessings in Christ.



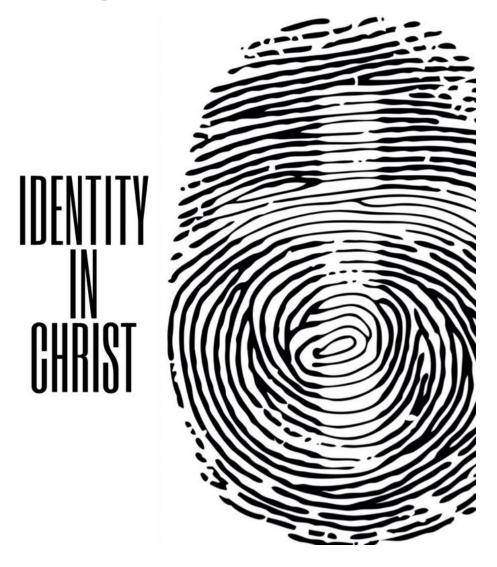
(Eph 1:3) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

- \*We should praise (speak good/bless) about God.
- \*When we know WHO God is and WHAT God has done we will praise Him.
- \*Jesus is God and equal with His Father.
- \*[John 20:17] Jesus also became man and called God both His Father and His God.

(Eph 1:3) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

- \*These blessings are not worldly (money, food, clothes, lands, houses, good health, no problems...)—they continue a little time.
- \*These blessings are **spiritual**. Only believers can enjoy spiritual blessings—they last **forever**.
- \*Our blessings are kept safe with Jesus in Heaven.
- \*Even now we can enjoy a little some of these blessings.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Blessing—Chosen in Christ [that we might be made like Christ]



(Eph 1:4) According as he (God) hath chosen us in him (Christ) before the foundation of the world (Creation), that we should be holy and without blame before him (God) in love:

\*[Isaiah 42:1] God knows all things. God knew that Adam would sin. Before creation, God planned for a different Man—Jesus, to replace Adam and make us acceptable.

\*God's plan for choosing us to be "in Christ" was that we might be made like Christ— "holy and without blame before Him in love".

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Blessing—Adopted by God [with full adult privileges]



(Eph 1:5) Having predestinated (before plan) us unto the adoption (take as own) of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

\*God planned that in Jesus we become His child.

\*[Rom. 8.14; Gal. 3:23; 4:5] Before Pentecost, believers were like young children under the law (teacher).

Now we are not under the law—we are adult children in God's family.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Blessing— Accepted in God's Beloved Son

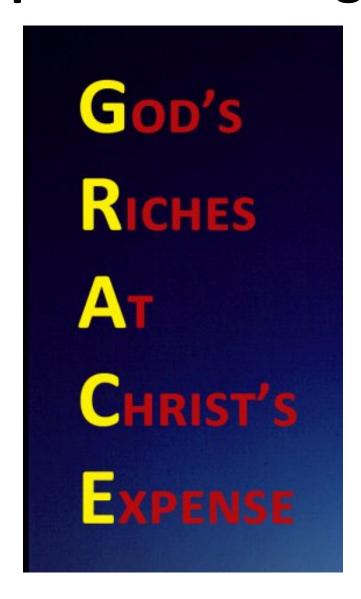


(Eph 1:6) To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in **the beloved** (Jesus Christ).

(Matthew 3:17) And lo (there) a voice from heaven (Father), saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom (Jesus) I (Father) am well pleased (very happy--accept).

\*[Rom 5:1] Because we are "in Christ", God accepts us in His Beloved Son.

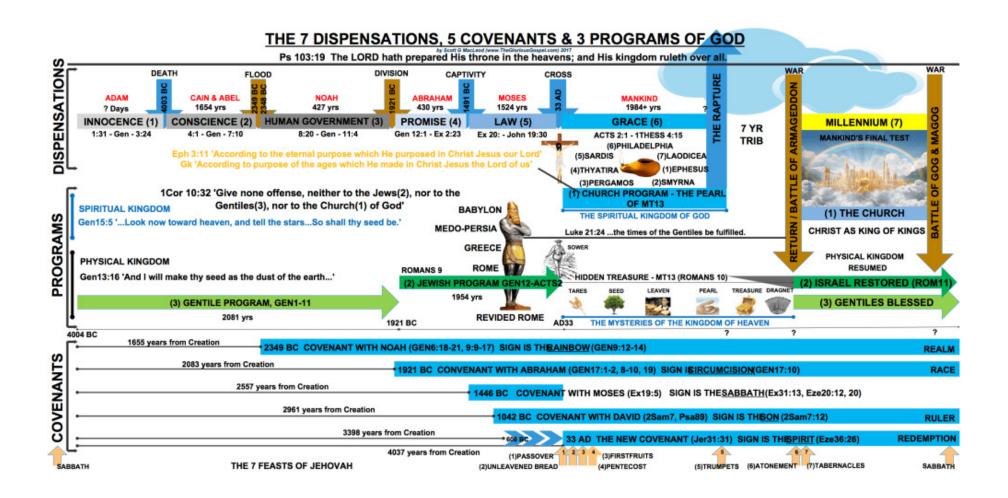
### 4<sup>th</sup> Blessing— Redemption and Forgiveness



(Eph 1:7) In whom (Christ) we have redemption (freedom) through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

- \*We were born slaves to sin and Satan.
- \*The blood of Jesus is the price paid for our salvation from sin and death.
- \*Because God has much grace, He was able to forgive our sins completely.
- \*God is like a very rich man who shared all His wealth with His enemies.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Blessing— Knowledge of God's Plan



(Eph 1:8-9) Wherein ("riches of His grace") he (God) hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence (understanding); (9) Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed (planned) in himself:

<sup>\*</sup>Before we were saved, we were in darkness—confused, not knowing the future or about life and after death.

<sup>--</sup>We lived in fear of bad spirits, idols and bad people.

<sup>\*</sup>God has given us understanding—sharing the secrets of Hisplan for all history.

(10) That in the dispensation (plan/order) of the fulness (end/completion) of times he (God) might gather together in one (unite) all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him (Christ):

\*God has ordered history—so that "in Christ" all things will be reconciled to Him.

[Mark 14:62-64] Many people still don't know the future—that Jesus will become the great King over all things... Or they choose not to accept Jesus as their king.

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Blessing—Inheritance with Jesus



(Eph 1:11) In whom (Christ) also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated (before decide) according to the purpose of him who (God) worketh all things after the counsel (plan) of his own will:

<sup>\*</sup>God our Father has determined that we will share everything that the Father has given to King Jesus.

<sup>\*</sup>In the beginning God gave Adam rule over this world, but he failed—we lost our position with Adam.

<sup>\*</sup>God chose Christ to rule over all things—both in Heaven and earth and "in Christ" we too will rule.

(Eph 1:12) That we should be to the **praise of his** (God's) **glory**, who first trusted in Christ.

\*Now and through eternity we share everything that belongs to Jesus resulting in God only being praised.

We have done nothing to earn any of these "spiritual blessings"... they are all gifts from God.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Blessing—Sealed with Holy Spirit



(Eph 1:13) In whom (Christ) ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom (Christ) also after that ye believed, ye were **sealed** with that **holy Spirit** of promise,

<sup>\*&</sup>quot;sealed" = shows our ID as belonging to God. All people who have the Holy Spirit belong to God.

<sup>\*[</sup>Romans 8:38-39] says nothing can separate us from the Love of God in Christ Jesus.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Blessing—Full Salvation Promised



(Eph 1:14) Which (Holy Spirit) is the earnest (promise) of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

- \*Jesus purchased us with His Blood—
- 100% payment was made on the cross.
- \*We belong to Jesus.
- \*Now we experience part of our redemption—but still suffer from sin and evil in the world. Later we will experience full salvation—no sin... no problems.
- \*God only must be praised.

#### **Spiritual Blessings**

- 1. Chosen in Christ
- 2. Adopted by God
- 3. Accepted in God's Beloved Son
- 4. Redemption and Forgiveness
- 5. Knowledge of God's Plan
- 6. <u>Inheritance</u> with Jesus
- 7. Sealed with the Holy Spirit
- 8. Full Salvation Promised