

God's Down Payment

Ephesians 1:13-14

13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

We have come to the final section of Paul's magnificent sentence in praise to God for the blessings He has given to His children.

He has praised the Father and the Son and now comes to praise the Holy Spirit, the third person of the trinity.

The Holy Spirit is the person of the Godhead that deals directly with the believer.

He is the one who quickens him and gives him spiritual life.

He is the one who convicts us of sin and show us our sinful condition.

He is the one who shows us Jesus as the Savior for our sins.

He is the one that we depend upon to teach us as we read the word of God.

His also the one who convinces us of sin and works in us to keep us on the straight and narrow.

He is the one that gives us strength and comfort in times of trouble.

He is the one who leads us in the path of righteousness for God's sake.

And all of these things the Holy Spirit does in every believer.

The Holy Spirit fills us with a sense of God's love (Romans 5:5), assures us that God has adopted us as his children (Romans 8:15-16), and helps us to manifest our Christlikeness. Life Application Bible Commentary - Life Application Bible Commentary – Ephesians.

- I. In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation;
 - A. Faith and repentance is man's responsibility.
 - 1. Ac 17:30 "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,
 - 2. Mt 3: 1 ¶ In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 2 and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"
 - 3. Mt 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."
 - B. There is such a thing as truth.
 - 1. John 8:32 "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you

free."

2. Here the truth was the gospel that brought them salvation.
3. There is but one true gospel and we must accept no other.
4. Ga 1:6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

II. in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

- A. All believers are sealed with the Holy Spirit.
 1. It is a part of regeneration and salvation.
- B. Sealing was a mark of authority.
 1. The king set a seal on the stone that covered Daniel's lion den.
 2. Pilate set a seal on the tomb of Jesus.
 3. Often they would set a seal on a document to show that it was not changed such in the seven seals in the book of Revelation.

III. The Holy Spirit is the guarantee of our inheritance

- A. The word pledge (guarantee) is a Hebrew term, which passed into the Greek and then into the Latin vocabulary, retaining its original sense. It means, first, a part of the price of anything purchased, paid as a security for the full payment, and then more generally a pledge. A Commentary on Ephesians.
 1. 2 Corinthians 1:22 (NKJV) 22 who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.
 2. 2 Corinthians 5:5 (NKJV) 5 Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

IV. Until the redemption of the purchased possession

- A. We are the purchased possession of God.
 1. He has purchased us with the blood of His Son Jesus Christ.
 2. Rom 8:22 For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. 23 Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

- B. We have been saved, we are being saved and we will be saved.
1. When we believed we were saved by the grace of God.
 2. While we live in this life the Holy Spirit continues to cleanse and sanctify us.
 3. One day God will wrap it all up and we will receive our new bodies that are like His glorious body.
 4. Php 3:21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.
 5. 1 Peter 1:3-4 (NKJV) 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

V. To the praise of His glory.

Ezekiel 36:26-27 (NKJV) 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.