

SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS ARE IN CHRIST

Throughout history it has been important to be in God's appointed place at God's appointed time. In Noah's day it was important to be in the ark. **"Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ"** (I Peter 3:21). Notice that Peter says "wherein few, that is eight souls were saved by water". They had to be in the ark. In Moses day it was necessary for the Israelites to be in the house with the blood on it (see Exodus 12:21-23). Today, to receive spiritual blessings one must be in Christ.

ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSING ARE IN CHRIST: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:" (Ephesians 1:3). Thus, there are NO spiritual blessing out side of Christ!

WE ARE CHOSEN IN CHRIST: "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:" (Ephesians 1:4).

WE HAVE THE ADOPTION OF CHILDREN BY JESUS CHRIST: "Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will," (Ephesians 1:5).

WE ARE ACCEPTED IN THE BELOVED: "To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved" (Ephesians 1:6).

REDEMPTION IS IN CHRIST: "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;" (Ephesians 1:7).

ALL THINGS ARE GATHERED TOGETHER IN HIM: "That 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:" (Ephesians 1:10).

WE HAVE OBTAINED AN INHERITANCE IN CHRIST: "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" (Ephesians 1:11).

ONE IS SEALED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT OF PROMISE IN CHRIST: "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise," (Ephesians 1:13). The Ephesians had miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit by the laying on of the apostle Paul's hands (Acts 19:1-7). While today we do not have miraculous gifts,

one is approved by the Holy Spirit by means of the word of God -"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:" (Romans 8:16).

HOW DOES ONE GET "INTO CHRIST?"

Truly, one in Christ is rich! How does one get into Christ? One must believe that Christ is the Son of God. Jesus stated; "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins" (John 8:24). One must also repent of his sins. Paul said; "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent" (Acts 17:30). In the next place, one is to confess his faith in Christ as God's Son. "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:10). The final step the one takes in obedience to get **into Christ** is immersion in water. Paul wrote; "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:27). Reader friend, Are you "in Christ"? Are you faithful? Don't forfeit your spiritual inheritance.

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