

college bible study: ephesians

Notes on Session 3 – June 19, 2007

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Audio recording available at <http://www.lfmchurch.org/worship-blog/audio>

Recurring themes in chapter 1:

The _____ permeates the chapter—the Good News of what God has done for us in Christ.

There are a number of references to _____ in the chapter; God's plan to redeem human beings has always existed.

Reasons why God chose to save us as he did:

He _____ us

It gave him great _____ to redeem us.

It brought much _____ to himself and the Lord Jesus.

The cross demonstrates that we have _____ in God's eyes, but it says a lot more about the _____ as expressed in Christ.

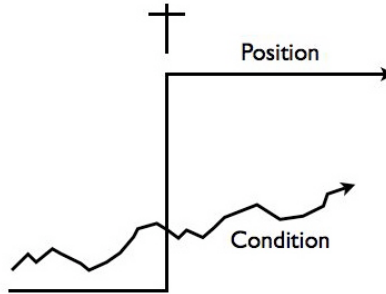
Other observations:

While the people had once been _____ by beings from the unseen realms, in Christ they were _____ by every blessing in the unseen realms. And this blessing was available to both _____ and _____.

The final prayer of chapter 1 is a prayer for _____ of the people, that they would understand how to _____ what they _____.

Ephesians 2:1-10

Jesus came into the world not to make _____ people _____, but to make _____ people _____.



The life of the believer is a process of _____ what you already _____. God says “This is how I see you” (_____)—you are holy, acceptable to God because of the blood of Christ. And I say, this is my _____ -- I am still a sinner, and still struggle with the old man, And one day he will bring my _____ to the level of my _____.

Why did God do this for us? He wants to _____ his _____ in us for ages to come. God is all about his _____.

Also, God has things for us to do—things he has prepared for us for ages.

We have all been saved by _____, and that is a _____ of God, so that no one has a reason to boast.

Gen. 15:6: “Abram _____ the Lord and he credited it to him as _____.”

Ephesians 2:11-22

It is important to remember that the gospel was, at first, a _____ thing. (See Acts 10 and 11 for an account of when and how this changed.)

Paul explains that Christ himself is our _____. He is the one who has brought Jew and Gentile together in one _____.

Questions for discussion

1. If God is all about his glory, what does that mean for us?
2. It has been said that most people “hate grace”—what do you think that means, and do you agree or disagree (and why)?
3. Why is it such a big deal that Jews and Gentiles are now on equal footing with Christ? Are there other implications in this?