

Our Call – Message #2

Ephesians 1:13-14

February 19, 2023

Vision and Mission

Review from last week: election, predestination, God's gifts!

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.

Ephesians 1:13

Anytime a phrase or key word is mentioned in a text we need to pay attention, repetition is important.

"To the praise of His glory" is in verse 6,12 and 14. We praise and worship Him for HIS glory. In other words, it's ALL about Him.

In Him you also _____...

Him = Jesus

"Trusted" is to put your faith in. We put our faith in something or someone everyday (spouse, job, car, etc.).

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

He draws us – we respond.

...after you _____ **the Word of Truth (Gospel),**

Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

Romans 10:17

For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. ¹³ For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

Romans 10:13-15

How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"

Romans 10:13-15

How will they know if we don't tell them? Someone told us, we are to tell others.

...the _____ **of your salvation;**

1 Corinthians 15:1-28 and 50-58 is the Gospel given and expounded upon.

...in whom also, having _____,

belief is faith - pisteuo

pistis (from 3982/*peithô*, "persuade, be persuaded") – properly, *persuasion* (be persuaded, come to trust); *faith*.

Faith (4102/*pistis*) is always a *gift from God*, and never something that can be produced by people. In short, 4102/*pistis* ("faith") for the believer is "God's *divine persuasion*" – and therefore distinct from human belief (confidence), yet involving it. The Lord continuously *births faith* in the yielded believer so they can know what He prefers, i.e. the *persuasion of His will* (1 Jn 5:4).¹

...you were _____ **with the Holy Spirit of promise,**

¹ <https://biblehub.com/greek/4102.htm>

A seal or signet ring made an impression that was a distinctive identifier showing who had sent the letter. This showed it was legit and whose it was.

We know we are God's by the seal of the Holy Spirit

What is the significance of this sealing of the Holy Spirit? For one thing, it speaks of a *finished transaction*. Even today, when important legal documents are processed, they are stamped with the official seal to signify the completion of the transaction. This sealing also implies *ownership*: God has put his seal on us because He has purchased us to be His own (1 Cor. 6:19–20). It also means *security and protection*. The Roman seal on the tomb of Jesus carried this meaning (Matt. 27:62–66). So, the believer belongs to God, and is safe and protected because he is a part of a finished transaction. According to John 14:16–17, the Holy Spirit abides with the believer forever. It is possible for us to grieve the Spirit and thereby lose the blessings of His ministry (Eph. 4:30). But He doesn't leave us.

Another use for the seal is as a mark of *authenticity*. Just as a signature on a letter attests to the genuineness of the document, so the presence of the Spirit proves the believer is genuine. "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His" (Rom. 8:9). It is not simply our lip profession, our religious activity, or our good works, but the witness of the Spirit that makes our profession authentic.²

Acts 2

...who is the guarantee of our _____

guarantee is also translated "deposit" or "earnest"

"In Paul's day it meant the down payment to guarantee the final purchase of some commodity or piece of property."³

The Holy Spirit is God's first installment to guarantee to His children that He will finish His work and eventually bring them to glory. The "redemption of the purchased possession" refers to the redemption of the body at the return of Christ (Rom. 8:18–23; 1 John 3:1–3). "Redemption" is experienced in three stages:

- *We have been redeemed* through faith in Jesus Christ (Eph. 1:7).
- *We are being redeemed* as the Spirit works in our lives to make us more like Christ (Rom. 8:1–4).
- *We shall be redeemed* when Christ returns and we become like Him.⁴

Earnest also means engagement ring

Genesis 1:26

...until the redemption of the purchased _____,

Whoever hears and believes the gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ is sealed with the promised Holy Spirit (1:13). Official documents were sealed in antiquity, implying protection and ownership. When you believe in Christ as your Savior, God puts you inside an envelope called Christ. You are "in Christ." But God also guarantees delivery. He registers the letter and seals it with the Holy Spirit—indicating that he is its owner and the only one qualified to open it. Paul also says the Holy Spirit is God's pledge to us—the down payment of our inheritance (1:14), the guarantee that God will do for us everything he promised for his children. Like an engagement ring, the Holy Spirit is like a down payment on an eternal commitment. The Spirit is a heavenly first installment given in anticipation of eternal life, a life that is eternally secure. He's a foretaste of what's ahead.⁵

...to the praise of His _____.

It's all about Him!

Prayer Focus:

- **Have I trusted in the Truth, Jesus?**
- **Am I walking in the Spirit?**
- **Am I looking forward to the inheritance?**

² Warren Wiersbe

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Evans, T. (2019). [*The Tony Evans Bible Commentary*](#) (p. 1219). Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers.