
a *Grace Notes* course

Ephesians

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Grace Notes

Lesson 3

Ephesians 1:11-17

Hope

Inheritance

The Glory of God

The Holy Spirit

Grace Notes

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Ephesians

Lesson 3: Ephesians 1:11-17

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Instructions for Completing the Lessons

Begin each study session with prayer. It is the Holy Spirit who makes spiritual things discernable to Christians, so it is essential to be in fellowship with the Lord during Bible study.

Read the whole book of Ephesians often. It is a short book, and reading it many times will help you understand the story much better.

Instructions

1. Read the introduction to the study of Ephesians
 2. Study the Ephesians passage for this lesson, by reading the verses and studying the notes. Be sure to read any other Bible passages that are called out in the notes.
 3. **Review** all of the notes in the Ephesians lesson.
 4. Go to the Quiz page and follow the instructions to complete all the questions on the quiz. The quiz is "open book". You may refer to all the notes and to the Bible when you take the test. But you should not get help from another person.
 5. When you have completed the Quiz, be sure to *SAVE* your file. If your quiz file is lost, and that can happen at *Grace Notes* as well, you will want to be able to reproduce your work.
 6. To send the Quiz back to *Grace Notes*, follow the instructions on the Quiz page.
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Ephesians 1:11

in whom also: reference to the Christian's union with the Lord Jesus Christ. The apostle continues to enumerate the benefits of our position as members of the royal family of God.

At the time of his personal salvation, the Christian believer enters into a spiritual union with Jesus Christ and remains in that position forever.

There is a wide class of Bible teaching on the subject of the Christian's position in (union with) Jesus Christ.

Union with Christ makes available to the believer a great number of spiritual benefits. These benefits can be used and enjoyed continuously during the believer's remaining lifetime and will continue into eternity.

we have obtained an inheritance: (kleirow): "to be appointed by lot".

Thus, "in Jesus Christ our lot is cast"; our future is tied up in His; we share His destiny.

From (kleiros), "lot", used two ways since the time of Homer: (1) "a lot which is drawn, or cast", and (2) "a lot of land; an allotment".

The lot on which your house stands is your allotment. You might have bought it; you might have had it given to you; you might have inherited it.

Casting lots was often done by Greek and Roman soldiers in dividing the spoil. All the loot was brought to one place and dice were thrown. Or, soldiers were allowed to choose: heroes first, senior soldiers next, then the rest.

The soldiers drew lots for the clothing of Christ while He was being crucified.

(kleiros) is closely related to (kleironomia) "inheritance" in the Septuagint (LXX), the Greek translation of the Old Testament. The words are synonymous when used in Joshua 17:4.

Josh. 17:4 "And they came near before Eleazar the priest and before Joshua the son of Nun and before the leaders, saying, 'The Lord commanded Moses to give us an inheritance (Heb: NACHALAH; LXX: kleironomia) among our brothers.' So

according to the command of the Lord he gave them an inheritance (Heb: NACHALAH; LXX: kleiros) among their father's brothers."

The word NACHALAH is used extensively in the OT, so here is another case where Paul will give Jewish readers a direct connection between something they understand and a new doctrine.

Topic: HOPE

Topic: INHERITANCE

according to the purpose (prothesis), "a problem selected, approved, outlined: ahead of time"

God designed ahead of time everything we need for inner happiness and prosperity. The plan is revealed in His Word. To fill in the "outline of the thesis", we learn the Word; we do research. We can know God's purpose by learning the Word of God "line upon line, precept upon precept."

of Him genitive of source. God the Father is the source of the design.

who works (energew), "to put something into action".

God the Father has put the plan into action. And He put the details of His plan into His Word. All we need is a positive attitude toward the teaching.

All of the power of God is expressed in the phrase "the works of God." He is omnipotent: so He has all powerful capability to carry out His work. He is omniscient: so He knows exactly what work to accomplish and how to do it. He is omnipresent: so He is present everywhere to carry out his work.

Furthermore, God is love: so He has humanity's best interests in mind as He carries out His plan.

according to the counsel (boulei), "purpose; counsel; decision; resolution; plan"

of His will (theleima), "will", thus "the will of God".

Ephesians 1:12

That we should be to the praise of His glory, who first trusted in Christ."

See notes on Ephesians 1:6.

Topic: GLORY

Ephesians 1:13

In whom ye also trusted, after 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."

in whom again, a reference to the Christian's position in Christ.

you also reference to all believers who were recipients of this letter, and by extension, all believers.

(trusted): not in original

At this point the King James translators introduces the word "trusted." Most KJV Bibles will have the word in italics. The reason was probably that it was inserted for clarity, because the concept of a person's having believed in Christ shows up later in the verse. Here is the New American Standard version of verse 13.

Eph. 1:13 (NAS) "In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation-- having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,"

you heard aor. act. part. of (**akouw**), "having heard"

The action of a Greek aorist participle precedes the action of the main verb "sealed". This indicates, grammatically, that hearing and believing precede the indwelling and sealing ministry of the Holy Spirit. The process then is: (1) you hear the Gospel; (2) you believe the Gospel: and (3) you receive salvation, the Holy Spirit begins to dwell in you, and this is the seal of your salvation.

the word of truth i.e., the expression of doctrine. The only way to get the gospel is by hearing it. The only way to learn Bible truth is to take it in.

the gospel of your salvation (euaggelion), "good news".

There are many ways to express the Gospel. And it is very interesting and useful in personal evangelism to work out various ways to explain the plan of salvation to people. One approach is to think of Salvation as that which overcomes the impossible barriers that lie between man and God.

"All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." And, "the wages of sin is death." But, "the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

having believed aor. act. participle (**pisteuw**), "having believed"; with "having heard" also precedes the action of "sealed".

you were sealed (sphragidzw), "stamped with a seal"

Comment:

- In the ancient world, the seal was a guarantee or a transaction, e.g., a signet impression on a ring. Sealing was used to authenticate contracts, laws, invoices, military orders. The seal was also used in the ratification of treaties.
- Seals were used to preserve tombs, libraries, treasuries. The seal was backed up by the force of the government in charge, e.g., the seal on the tomb of Christ was guaranteed by the Roman troops.
- Seals indicate ownership; God owns the believer, having purchased him from the slave market of sin (Eph. 1:7; 1 Cor. 6:20)
- The believer is sealed as a guarantee of his eternal security.

with the Holy Spirit of promise "by means of the Holy Spirit which was promised"

Ephesians 1:14

Who is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory."

who: a reference to the Holy Spirit

Topic: THE HOLY SPIRIT

is the earnest: (arrabon), "installment; deposit; down payment".

Thus, "a pledge on a contract"; the Holy Spirit is a pledge given by God that eternal life is promised to the believer.

of our inheritance: (kleironomia), "inheritance; legacy"

Ephesians Lesson 3

We inherit all things because of our union with Christ, Rom. 8:16,17; Gal. 4:7

until the redemption: (eis + apolutrosis),
"because of the redemption".

In this case, the resurrection of the body which is the physical redemption of the believer entering eternity. The word redemption implies that a ransom price has been paid, that we have been purchased. See Eph. 1:7.

of the purchased possession: (peripoeisis),
"property; something paid for".

The believer is God's property. We are "bought with a price."

unto the praise (epainos), "praise"

of His glory: (doxa), "glory", the perfect character of God.

Ephesians 1:15

Wherefore, I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,"

This verse begins the first of two prayers by Paul. He prays that Christians will employ the mechanics of the plan of God so that they will grow and enjoy the blessings of a dynamic life.

Wherefore, I also: "for this reason, I also"

after I heard: aor. act. part. (**akouw**), "having heard"

of your faith in the Lord Jesus: (kata + pistis),
"about your faith in the Lord Jesus".

and love toward all the saints: (agapei), "love",
the mental attitude love which is the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

Comment:

- Love is the ability to appreciate someone, to have affection for someone, or to be occupied with someone. This includes being willing to sacrifice of yourself in order to draw the object of love to yourself for a closer relationship. Gen. 27:1 ff; Ps. 119:97; John 12:43; Eph. 5:25.
- Love is evidence of edification, growth in Christ.

- A relaxed mental attitude, characterized by the absence of mental attitude sins, is the basis for all love for others.
- The Ephesian church was unusual; believers living in the same town had love for each other, freedom from open sins, courtesy and respect for each other. It's easy to love those you are compatible with, but this verse says "all saints". Christian love for others include those who are obnoxious, even those who are enemies.
- Paul enjoyed his fellowship in Ephesus for nearly three years. A doctrinal church is the closest to perfect environment you can find on earth. The environment is perfect regardless of weather, politics, or outward circumstances.
- But the only way to maintain this perfect environment is to maintain one's continuous advancement and growth through intake and application of Bible truth.

Ephesians 1:16

Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers."

cease not (ou pauw): "never stop".

Paul is always thinking about his friends, and he is always interceding for them.

to give thanks for you pres. act. part. (**eucharistew**), "giving thanks"

Thus, "I never stop being grateful for you..." Paul was thankful for his fellow believers in Ephesus.

making mention (of you): (mneia + poiew),
"making a remembrance; producing a memory"
(Eng.: mnemonic)

in my prayers: the noun (**proseuchei**) from the verb (**proseuchomai**), "to make prayer", hence, "by my prayers"

Notice the content of Paul's prayers for others: that they'll keep on growing and making maximum use of divine blessings: studying, applying, growing.

John 17:20-26; Rom. 1:9-11; Eph. 3:14-19; Col. 4:12

Ephesians 1:17

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom, and revelation in the knowledge of him,"

that: introduces the following clause in which Paul states the purpose of his prayer.

the God of our Lord Jesus Christ: God the Father and God the Son

the Father of glory: (*doxa*), "glory".

Here, the word "glory" is a reference to the perfect character of God.

Topic: GLORY OF GOD

may give unto you: aor. act. optative of (*didomi*), "to give".

The optative mood expresses a desire. Paul's prayer expresses a very strong desire that his friends advance toward spiritual maturity.

the spirit of wisdom: "wisdom" is (*sophia*), which is a word used to refer to wisdom in the human spirit.

Wisdom is gained through the teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit. A Christian learns the Word of God academically; the facts enter the mind and can be understood there. The believer then makes a decision whether to believe the Word of God (to have faith in it), which may involve obedience to a commandment or accepting certain principles.

The Holy Spirit then uses the facts of Scripture to provide wisdom and prudence in the Christian's life. The Word of God becomes a tool or weapon with which to make correct decisions in life and to solve problems, all according to the divine wisdom of God which is within. This is the principle of "line upon line, precept upon precept" by which a Christian grows in the "knowledge of Jesus Christ."

The Lord provides abundant wisdom as part of His grace plan for believers. Eph. 1:7,8.

Bible doctrine is useful only when it produces edification, that is, applied knowledge. A Christian becomes wise when he learns and believes Bible truth while walking in fellowship.

The Holy Spirit makes application, producing discernment and prudence.

2 Chr. 1:8-10 "And Solomon said to God, "Thou hast dealt with my father David with great lovingkindness, and hast made me king in his place.

"Now, O Lord God, Thy promise to my father David is fulfilled; for Thou hast made me king over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth.

"Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people; for who can rule this great people of Thine?"

Prov. 2:1-7 "My son, if you will receive my sayings, And treasure my commandments within you,

"Make your ear attentive to wisdom, Incline your heart to understanding;

"For if you cry for discernment, Lift your voice for understanding;

"If you seek her as silver, And search for her as for hidden treasures;

"Then you will discern the fear of the Lord, And discover the knowledge of God.

"For the Lord gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

"He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity,"

James 1:5 "But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

and revelation: (*apokalupsis*), "revelation", a reference to the canon of Scripture, the inspired Word of God.

in the knowledge of Him: (*epignosis*), "full and applied knowledge from the source of God the Father"

Hope

Hope is the mental attitude of confidence that results from learning and applying Bible truth regarding the future.

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In Bible usage, "hope" (Greek: *ελπις*) is synonymous with "confidence". Growth in confidence comes along with growth in Christ. Applied knowledge of Bible principles of time and eternity leads to supreme confidence in God's Word.

The Christian has confidence in

- an eternal inheritance, **1 Pet. 1:4,5**
- the new home in the future, **John 14:1-3**
- the resurrection body, **1 Cor. 15:51-57**
See also **1 Th. 4:16-18; Phil. 3:21; and 1 John 3:1,2.**

The **hope** of Israel is in their coming Messiah (the Second Coming of Christ, His kingdom on earth, and the new earth of eternity).

Luke 1:67-79; 2:28-32; Acts 26:6,7; 28:20; Eph. 2:12.

The Abrahamic Covenant (amplified by the Palestinian, Davidic, and New Covenants) promised to Israel the land of Canaan, the eternal seed (the Messiah), and blessing (new birth). Israel's **hope** lies in these promises of God.

Abraham's **hope** was directed to the promise of a new city, the New Jerusalem, **Heb. 11:9,10.**

The **hope** for the Church is the "blessed hope" of the Rapture. **Titus 2:13-15; 1 John 3:2,3; 1 Thess. 4:13-18**

Hope is derived from such passages as **Rev. 2:14** in which it is stated that there will be no more death, tears, pain, etc.

The **hope** (confidence) we have in Christ has caused death to lose its sting and the grave to lose its victory. **1 Cor. 15:54-58.**

The word **hopeless** should never be in the Christian's vocabulary.

Inheritance

Jesus Christ, as the Son of God, and as the victor in the spiritual conflict, is the heir of all things. **Heb. 1:1-4**

Inheritance is based on sonship:

John 1:12, But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

Rom. 8:16,17, The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him.

Gal. 3:26-29, For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

To inherit from God, a person must possess the life of God, that is, salvation resulting in eternal life.

Titus 3:5-7, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

that being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

1 John 5:11, 12 And the witness is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

Therefore, salvation is the qualification for inheriting from God. **Col. 1:9-14**

We have an inheritance because we share the destiny of Christ. The true doctrine of predestination is that we share Christ's destiny.

Eph. 1:11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will,

Ephesians Lesson 3

As joint-heirs with Christ, we also share Christ's election.

Heb. 9:15, And for this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, in order that since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

Our heritage is related to the doctrine of Eternal Security.

1 Pet. 1:3-5, Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is the down payment on our inheritance. Eph. 1:14

Abraham's inheritance is the pattern and illustration of the heritage of believers.

Rom. 4:9-16

The Glory of God

The following is a selection of comments on the word "glory", *δοκσος (doksos)*, as used in the Bible.

Glory is used to describe the Essence of God: ROM. 3:23; EPH. 1:17; DEUT. 5:24; PS. 21:5; MT. 16:27; LK. 2:9.

The Lord Jesus Christ is said to possess glory: MK. 10:37.

Glory is used to describe the edification structure in the believer's soul: EPH. 3:21; COL. 1:27; 1 PET. 1:8; 2 THESS. 2:14. As a believer receives doctrine, he reflects the Glory of God.

A wife is said to be the glory of her husband: 1 COR. 11:7, 15.

The Grace of God is described as his glory: EPH. 1:6.

The provision of God's grace is also called wealth, "the riches of His glory": EPH. 1:18; 3:16; PHIL. 4:19.

There is a glory in the future which is beyond human knowledge, namely, the glory of eternity: 1 TIM. 3:16; HEB. 2:10; 1 PET. 5:10; 2 PET. 1:3.

Human glamour is described as glory, though often in the negative sense: 1 PET. 1:24; PHIL. 3:19; MT. 6:29.

Glory is used to describe the wonders of the universe: 1 COR. 15:40,41.

Glory is used to describe the resurrection body of the believer: 1 COR. 15:43; 2 THESS. 2:14.

The word glory is associated with the presentation of the Church to the Lord Jesus Christ: HEB. 2:10; MT. 19:28; 24:30; 25:31.

The Holy Spirit

The Bible teaches that God is one God and that there are no other gods. The Bible also clearly distinguishes between three parts or Persons of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, known as the Trinity.

This article has been prepared to organize the large number of Scripture passages referring to the Spirit of God to show (1) that the Holy Spirit is distinctly a Person, that is, that He has personality; (2) that He is God, that is, that He shares all of God's eternal attributes; and (3) that He has an objective, real ministry in the world during the Church Age, particularly in the lives of Christians.

The Holy Spirit's Personality

The Holy Spirit has personality because He possesses the essential characteristics of personality, namely, intellect, emotion, and will.

His Intellect, 1 Cor. 2:10,11, For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man, which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

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His Emotion, Eph. 4:30, And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

His Will, 1 Cor. 12:11, But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

His Relationship to the Father

Matt. 3:16, And after being baptized, Jesus went up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and coming upon Him,

Luke 4:18, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ...

Isaiah 61:1

His Relationship to the Son

Rom. 8:9, However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

Phil. 1:19, For I know that this shall turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

The Holy Spirit Shares the Attributes of God

Eternity, Heb. 9:14, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Life, Rom. 8:2, For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

Holiness, Rom. 1:4, who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,

Truth, John 14:17, that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you.

Omnipotence, Gen. 1:1,2, In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

And the earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

Omnipresence, Ps. 139:7-10, Where can I go from Thy Spirit? Or where can I flee from Thy presence?

If I ascend to heaven, Thou art there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, Thou art there.

If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea,

Even there Thy hand will lead me, And Thy right hand will lay hold of me.

The Holy Spirit Reveals Divine Truth

1 Cor. 2:9-11, but just as it is written, " Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And which have not entered the heart of man, All that God has prepared for those who love Him."

For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man, which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

See also 2 Sam. 23:2; Micah 3:8; Acts 1:16; Heb. 9:6-8; 2 Pet. 1:15-21; John 16:12-14.

The Holy Spirit Glorifies Christ During the Church Age

After the Lord Jesus had ascended to Heaven, the Holy Spirit came to indwell all believers during the Church Age.

John 7:38,39, "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.'"

But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

The purpose of the indwelling Holy Spirit is *not* to glorify the Holy spirit, but to glorify Christ while He is absent from the earth.

John 16:13,14, "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

"He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you.

The believer's body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, and this glorification occurs on the inside of the believer.

1 Cor. 6:19,20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

When a Christian is filled with the Holy Spirit (walking in fellowship), his life is written by the Holy Spirit. He is declared to be the epistles of Christ written by the Holy spirit.

2 Cor. 3:2-6 You are our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men;

being manifested that you are a letter of Christ, cared for by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone, but on tablets of human hearts.

And such confidence we have through Christ toward God.

Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God,

who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter, but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

When a Christian is filled with the Holy Spirit, Christ is at home in the body.

Eph. 3:16,17 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man;

so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

General Work of the Holy Spirit

Zech. 4:6, "... not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of hosts."

The following is a list of activities carried out by the Holy Spirit:

- Casting out demons: Matt. 12:28
- Comforting of believers: John 15:26
- Reproving the world of sin: John 16:8
- Making believers spiritually alive: Rom. 8:11
- Making intercession for believers: Rom. 8:26
- Making able ministers of the new covenant: 2 Cor. 3:6
- Raising Christ from the dead: 1 Pet. 3:18
- Was executor of Bible inspiration: 2 Pet. 1:21
- Invites unbelievers to accept Christ: Rev. 22:17

The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit lives permanently in every Christian. Rom. 8:9; Gal. 3:2; 4:6; 1 Cor. 6:19,20.
- The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is called the "unction" in 1 John 2:20, and "anointing" in 1 John 2:27. These are synonyms for "indwelling."
- The prophecy of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is found in John 7:37-39; John 14:16,17.
- The indwelling of the Holy Spirit must be distinguished from the indwelling of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ indwells the believer for the purpose of fellowship, Rom. 8:10; 2 Cor. 13:5.

The Holy Spirit indwells the believer for the purpose of function, Gal. 5:22.

Maximum fellowship with Christ comes through the function of the Holy Spirit in edification and grace living.

- The indwelling of the Holy Spirit must be distinguished from the filling of the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians Lesson 3

The Indwelling is automatic at salvation.

The Filling is a function of the believer's volition and may be lost through carnality, Eph. 4:30. The Filling is commanded, Eph. 5:18. The Filling is regained through confession of Sin, 1 John 1:9; Prov. 1:23.

- The Holy Spirit's functions in the intake and application of Bible truth, John 14:26; 16:12-15; 1 Cor. 2:9-16; 1 John 2:27. This is the "how to" of edification.
- The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is necessary because of the spiritual conflict in "high places" (spiritual warfare), John 7:37-39.

The Sealing Ministry of the Holy Spirit

The sealing work of the Holy Spirit is the basis for our eternal security. The three phases of salvation are given in Eph. 1:13.

Eph. 1:13,14 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation-- having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

- First, you must hear the word of truth, the gospel.
- Then, you must believe the gospel.
- At that point, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit

you were sealed is the aorist passive indicative form of the verb σφραγίζω (**sphragidzw**), which means "stamped with a seal."

- In the ancient world, the seal was a guarantee or a transaction, e.g., a signet impression on a ring. Sealing was used to authenticate contracts, laws, invoices, military orders. The seal was also used in the ratification of treaties.
- Seals were used to preserve tombs, libraries, treasuries. The seal was backed up by the force of the government in charge, e.g., the seal on the tomb of Christ was guaranteed by the Roman troops.

- Seals indicate ownership; God owns the believer, having purchased him from the slave market of sin (Eph. 1:7; 1 Cor. 6:20)
- The believer is sealed as a guarantee of his eternal security.

The Filling of the Holy Spirit

When a person accepts Christ as Savior, the Holy Spirit comes into (indwells) his life permanently. The Holy Spirit indwells for the purpose of glorifying Christ, but indwelling alone does not guarantee that Christ will be glorified by the believer's life. For this reason, Christians are commanded to be habitually "filled" with the Holy Spirit.

Eph. 5:18, And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,

The verb "be filled" means "to fill up a deficiency; to fully possess; to fully influence; to fill with a certain quality." Here it is in the present passive imperative, so the verb is a command meaning "keep on being filled" with the believer *receiving* the action of the verb. The filling is by means of the Holy Spirit.

The responsibility of the Christian is to confess his sins. At any point in our lives we can take ourselves out of fellowship through personal sin. When that happens, we become carnal, not spiritual. Sin grieves the Holy Spirit and causes a breach in our relationship with God. But the Lord promises that if we confess our sins, He will forgive us and cleanse us from unrighteousness. That is, upon the condition of our confession, He will heal the breach that sin has caused.

So, to be filled with the Holy Spirit, sin must be confessed. 1 John 1:9

Nothing good is produced in the Christian's life apart from the filling of the Holy Spirit.

Rom. 8:8,9 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

Gal. 3:3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

Results of the Filling of the Holy Spirit

- Imitation of Christ: John 16:14; 2 Cor. 3:3; Phil. 1:20
- Perception of the Word: John 14:26; 16:12-14; 1 Cor. 2:9-16
- Witnessing: Acts 1:8; 2 Cor. 3:1-10
- Guidance: Rom. 8:14; Eph. 5:16-18
- Assurance: Rom. 8:14-16; Gal. 4:5,6
- Worship: Phil. 3:3; John 4:24
- Prayer: Eph. 6:18 with Psalm 66:18
- Leadership in Ministry: John 16:13; Acts 10:9,10; Acts 13:2; Acts 16:6

The Holy Spirit Provides Spiritual Power

The book of Acts is the book of spiritual power - where it comes from, how it is obtained, and how it is used. The promise of Jesus Christ to his disciples was "He shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever, even the Spirit of Truth... He dwells with you and shall be in you."

The prophesy of John the Baptist in Matt. 3:11 regarding the coming ministry of the Lord Jesus also announced the ministry of the Holy Spirit for the Church Age.

Matt. 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that comes after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with fire:"

Examples of believers receiving the Holy Spirit:

- At Pentecost: Acts 2:3
- The Samaritan Christians: Acts 8:17
- Cornelius and his company: Acts. 10:44
- The Ephesian believers: Acts 19:6,7

The Benefits Derived from Spiritual Power

- Men receive courage to rebuke sin: Matt. 3:8

- Men are enabled to speak with confidence: Acts 4:31-33*
- Gives spiritual and moral strength: 2 Sam. 22:40; Isa. 28:56; Isa. 40:31; 41:10; Dan. 11:32; Eph. 3:16
- Provides strength in weakness: 1 Cor. 1:27; 2 Cor. 12:9; 13:4
- Provides spiritual gifts: Rom. 12:6; Eph. 4:11

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit

The fruit of the Holy Spirit is the character of Christ being formed in the Christian who is filled with the Spirit. Gal. 5:22,23 has a listing of the types of production which are the result of the fruit of the Spirit.

Love, Joy, and Peace are fruits of mental attitude, inward thinking that reflects the lack of mental attitude sins and the relaxation which comes from knowing Bible truth.

Long-suffering, Gentleness, and Goodness are outward, or directed toward "neighbors."

Long-suffering, for example, is a relaxed attitude toward the human race and is a result of having love, joy peace. This is Faith-Rest under pressure which comes from people or Circumstances.

Faith, Meekness, and Temperance are fruits directed upward, or God-ward.

Humility, for example, is a grace attitude with regard to divine provision that gives glory to God for all support and blessing in life, rather than taking the attitude that one is self-made.

Conditions of Fruit-Bearing

The following are required in order for a Christian to have spiritual fruit:

- Contact with the Living Water: Ps. 1:3; Eze. 47:12
- Spiritual receptivity: Matt. 13:23
- Death of the old life: John 12:24
- Chastening (pruning): John 15:2
- Abiding in Christ: John 15:4

Ephesians Lesson 3

Sins Against the Holy Spirit

The Bible speaks of five types of sin which can be committed against the Holy Spirit. Two are committed by unbelievers only; the other three are committed by Christians.

Sins By Unbelievers Only

- Resistance of the Holy Spirit: Acts 7:51. This is rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ and a rejection of the pre-salvation ministry of the Holy Spirit (John 16:7-11) through the sin of unbelief
- Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit: Matt. 12:31,32. This refers to rejection of Jesus Christ during His ministry on earth (during the previous dispensation, the Age of the Jews).

Sins by Believers

- Lying to the Holy Spirit: Acts 5:3. Refers to false motivation, approbation lust sin.
- Grieving the Holy Spirit: Eph. 4:30. Refers to producing sins from the area of weakness in the sin nature. Any sin in the life of the believer which involves a moral or ethical issue.
- Quenching the Holy Spirit: 1 Thess. 5:19. Producing human good from the areas of strength in the Sin Nature. Examples: giving, prayer, witnessing for the purpose of gaining approbation. Human good soothes the conscience and keeps the believer from confessing his sin.

Ephesians Lesson 3 Quiz

Instructions

The following questions relate to your study of this lesson.

To answer a question, type your response in the space provided after the word "Answer:".

A question may be True/False, multiple choice, fill in the blank, or short answer type.

The last question requires you to write one or two paragraphs in "essay" form. Use the space provided; it will expand to accommodate your response.

You have choices about sending the quiz back to Grace Notes.

- If you received an email file containing the quiz, you can use the REPLY feature of your e-mail application to open the quiz. Enter your answers in the reply message. Then SEND the message to Grace Notes.
- You can enter your answers on these pages, then send the whole file back to Grace Notes as a file attachment. This is handy, but these lessons will average 100K to 200K in size. As an alternative,
- After you answer the questions here, copy and paste the whole list of questions into a new MS Word document; then, send the new file to Grace Notes as an attachment. The new file will, of course, be much smaller than this main file.
- Finally, you can print the Quiz pages on your printer and send your response back to Grace Notes in the regular mail. If you do this, send the mail to:

Grace Notes

% Warren Doud

1705 Aggie Lane

Austin, Texas 78757 USA

Whichever transmission method you use, when Grace Notes receives your completed Quiz, the next lesson will be sent to you, by the same means you received this one. EXCEPT: when you have sent in the FINAL QUIZ, we will send your certificate to you, by regular mail.

Ephesians Lesson 3

Questions on Ephesians Lesson 3

1. In Eph. 1:11, to what does the phrase "in whom" refer?

Answer:

2. The fact that "we have obtained an inheritance" means that we will receive a good deal of money.

[True/False]

Answer:

3. There are parts of the plan of God for the Christian life that are not revealed in the Bible.

[True/False]

Answer:

4. Which member of the Trinity has put the plan of God into action?

Answer:

5. When does the Holy Spirit begin to dwell in a Christian?

Answer:

6. How does a person obtain the gospel?

Answer:

7. The wages of sin is _____.

Answer

8. What word is used in Ephesians to refer to a "pledge on a contract?"

Answer:

9. Ephesians says "we are bought with a price." What is that price?

Answer:

10. How often did Paul pray for the Ephesian Christians?

Answer:

11. The idea of "hope" is that we don't know what's going to happen to us, but we wish that everything will turn out well. [True/False]

Answer:

12. What is the "hope" of the Church?

Answer:

13. Inheritance is based on _____.

Ephesians Lesson 3

Answer:

14. How is it that we can be Abraham's offspring?

Answer:

15. The word "glory" is used in the Bible to describe _____.

Answer:

16. In what scripture verse is the grace of God described as His glory?

Answer:

17. What are the essential characteristics of personality?

Answer:

18. Which of the members of the Godhead (Trinity) have the essential characteristics of personality?

Answer?

19. The Holy Spirit has every one of the attributes of God the Father. [True/False]

Answer:

20. Which member of the Trinity is the one who reveals divine truth?

Answer:

End of Quiz