

Ephesians 1:7-12

Date | 09/25/11

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight 9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him 10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him 11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, 12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.

Paul focuses here on the work of the Son in salvation

He redeemed us (vs. 7-8)

1. What is redemption? What was its cost?
2. Our forgiveness has a direct relationship with the riches of God's grace. What does that tell us about the forgiveness available?
3. In what ways would a continual awareness of God's forgiveness impact your life?

He is the center of God's great plan (vs. 9-10)

1. What does Paul mean by "summing up all things in Christ"?
2. How should this final goal inform our daily decisions?

He also made us an inheritance (vs. 11-12)

1. "we have obtained an inheritance" in the Greek can also be translated "we have become an inheritance". Both have ample biblical support, as both are true of what we have/are in Jesus. Which is more impacting to you?
2. God makes clear that this is all part of the plan of a sovereign God. Why is that encouraging?
3. In what way does us being God's inheritance (people, portion, heritage) lead to the praise of his glory?