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**New People for the Glory of God**

I am blessed by God to be in Christ

Ephesians 1:1-14

*Ephesians Spiritual Development*

Before Christ After Christ Later On

*Occult oriented Strong leaders Sound but cold*

*(Acts 19) (Acts 20) (Revelation 2)*

*God blessed us by changing us spiritually (vs. 1-3)*

*God blessed us by choosing us (v. 4a, 5a)*

* When did He choose us?
* How did He choose us?

**Acts 13:48**

And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.

“This doctrine, in a broad sense, may be defined as an act of choice whereby God selects an individual or group out of a larger company for a purpose or destiny that He appoints. In a more restricted sense, it is God’s gracious and sovereign choice of individual sinners to be saved in and through Christ. We cannot fully comprehend the ways of God, but we may be sure that in His wisdom He knew that this was the way whereby the greatest possible blessing would eventually come to the largest number of persons.”

**Curtis Vaughn**

*God blessed us by purifying us (v. 4b)*

**James 1:2-4**

2Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

**Romans 5:3-5**

3Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

*God blessed us by adopting us (vs. 5-6)*

**Romans 8:15**

15For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”

*God blessed us by redeeming us from sin* (vs. 7-8)

*God blessed us by communicating His salvation plan to us* (vs. 9-10)

*God blessed us by granting us a future inheritance* (vs. 11-12)

**Romans 8:16-17**

16The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

*God blessed us by securing us* (vs. 13-14)

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