

Title: What's His is Mine
Scripture: Ephesians 1:3

Ephesians 1:1-3

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's will: To the faithful saints in Christ Jesus at Ephesus. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ.**

"Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ"

- In the Greek, verses 1-14 of Ephesians 1 are actually one long sentence.
- **He is calling for the church in Ephesus to recognize the blessedness of the Father.**
- The idea behind the phrase "Blessed is" means to **"Praise God with worshipping adoration."**
- And how could we NOT? How could we NOT praise God with worshipping adoration, if He has **blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens?**
- It ALL starts with Father. This is where this blessing begins.
- **"Blessed is the God and FATHER of our Lord Jesus Christ".**
- **Romans 11:36 "From him and through him, and to him are all things."**
- **He is the source and beginning of all things.**
- And so it's not just blessed be GOD here. It is blessed be God the FATHER.
- **And we must understand God as FATHER if we are going to understand who He is and why He does what He does, and if we are going to understand the nature of the is blessing, and the access we have to it.**
- **And Father's have CHILDREN.**
- **If we must understand God as FATHER, then we must also understand ourselves as CHILDREN - as Kingdom Kids.**
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- **But the truth is, when we are are born again, we are not born into a corporation as workers, into an army as soldiers, or into a government as ambassadors. We are born into a FAMILY as a CHILDREN.**
- But how many of us have entirely missed this, or at least functionally have never lived like this?

- **But what would happen if Christians began to see God as he really is** — as loving, gentle, pleased Father FIRST, and from his father's heart, everything else flowing?
- **And what would happen if Christians would begin to see ourselves** as we really are — as children FIRST and as a result of that, everything else flowing?
 - If the Church would begin to see God as “loving father” and ourselves as “beloved children”, then lives that were once defined and ruled by shame, defeat, fear, and heaviness would begin to be defined and ruled by love, freedom, security, and boldness.
- **I believe** that NOT understanding this is so often the source of crippling shame, defeat, insecurity, heaviness, fear.
- **My prayer:** “Holy Spirit, give me a revelation of the Father's heart”.
- **It all starts with Father.** “Blessed is the God and FATHER”
- And why call for this blessing upon our Father? Why call for the church to praise Him with worshipping adoration?
- Because he: has blessed us. It is a response to who he is and what He has done, as all worship ought to be. **Blessed is the God Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...**

“who has blessed us” with every spiritual blessing in the heavens”

- **“To bless”** = to be favored with. to be gifted with”
- It's a gift FROM the Father, and to **whom** is the gift given? He has blessed... has he blessed?

“us”

- Us. Paul is using very familial language here. This isn't a solo thing. This is a **family** thing.
- This **“us”** includes both Jews and Gentiles in the church at Ephesus and beyond. And it was important for Paul to point out that these blessings were for both Jewish and Gentile believers.
- First century Jews already would have had a strong sense of being blessed, called, and predestined by God. But Paul showed that these things are now given to **Christians** whether Jew or Gentile.
- So the blessing is for US,
- **And what has he blessed US WITH?**

“every spiritual blessing”

- **Everything we need for spiritual adoption, spiritual growth, and spiritual work, has been giving to us.**
- Now this DOESN'T say that we have been given every **physical** blessing, or **emotional** blessing, or **monetary** blessing. The child of God is not promised every (or any) worldly temporal blessings.
- **But we ARE promised every single SPIRITUAL blessing.**
- “Our thanks are due to God for all temporal blessings; they are more than we deserve. But our thanks ought to go to God in thunders of hallelujahs for spiritual blessings. A new heart is better than a new coat. To feed on Christ is better than to have the best earthly food. To be an heir of God is better than being the heir of the greatest nobleman. To have God for our portion is blessed, infinitely more blessed than to own broad acres of land. God hath blessed us with spiritual blessings. These are the rarest, the richest, the most enduring of all blessings; they are priceless in value.” **(Charles Spurgeon)**
- **And this is not just the kind of blessing that's given once and done. This is the kind of blessing that is given over and over again.**
- Strength. Grace. Patience. Love. Kindness. Gentleness. Compassion. Mercy for those who don't deserve it. Grace for those who didn't earn it.
- Power. Authority. Victory. Wisdom. Self Control.
- **It's Spiritual gifts like:**
 - Prophecy
 - Teaching
 - Pastoring
 - Tongues
 - Words of knowledge
 - Wisdom
 - Administrative gifts
 - And hospitality gifts
 - Discernment for how to do that relationship or relate to that person
- **Everything you need to know:**
 - how to faithfully walk in singleness
 - “ “ how faithfully do marriage
 - “ “ how to faithfully walk barrenness
 - “ “ how to faithfully do parenting.
 - The blessing that comes living in the Father's house.
 - The blessing of having a new **identity** as a child of God, which means I don't have to try to prove myself to anyone.
 - **What I need to know is what my Father says about me.**
 - All you need to know is what your Father says about you.

- To have all the **spiritual blessings of heaven** means that:
 - Your place in the family is secured. You don't have to earn it, and it can't be taken away.
- **"Every spiritual blessing"** means that every spiritual provision for what you need is already given to you. **You have access to everything you need.**
- **"Everything you NEED".**
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- *Kingston story.*
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- When it says that He

"has" blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, it means that he

- He has already done it. It is already ours. This is what we receive when we are brought into the family. This is certainty and assurance.
- We don't need to sit around groaning, and crying, and fretting, and worrying, or questioning our salvation or our standing, or who we are, or who God is or, how he thinks about us, or how he feels about us. It is certain. It is done. It is secure.
- **He HAS given us every spiritual blessing.**
- **And where are these blessings housed?**

"in the heavens"

We have been blessed with every spiritual blessing IN THE HEAVENS

- **They are from heaven which** means that they are not from the earth, which means they are different than the kind of blessings that the world gives and gives value to.
- **They are from heaven** which means that they are **not temporal** — they are eternal, which means that they can never fade away, grow old, lose their glory, be bought, bargained for, stolen, or taken away.
- **They are from heaven**, which means that they are from **God's realm**. Jesus taught us to pray, **"Father, let your Kingdom come, as it is IN HEAVEN"**.
- The heavens are God's realm. Where God dwells — God's HOUSE, so to speak — **in the HOUSE of our heavenly Father.**
- We are living in a KINGDOM, but in this Kingdom the King is a **Father**, and everything he does flows from His Father's heart of love.
- This is not a master saying "I am giving you everything that you need to serve me"; and it's not a commander equipping his soldiers to go to war. This **is a FATHER offering all that is His, and all that is of Him, to his children.**
- **And he is saying saying:**

- “Everything that I have. Everything that is in my house. And everything that I am, is yours.
- **Luke 15:11-32 (NLT)** “To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: “A man had two sons. **12** The younger son told his father, ‘I want my share of your estate now before you die.’ So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. **13** “A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. **14** About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. **15** He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. **16** The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything. **17** “When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, ‘At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! **18 I will go home to my father and say, “Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, 19 and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.”’** **20** “So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. **21** His son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.’ **22** “But his father said to the servants, ‘Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. **23** And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, **24** for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.’ So the party began. **25** “Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house, **26** and he asked one of the servants what was going on. **27** ‘Your brother is back,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.’ **28** “The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in. His father came out and begged him, **29** but he replied, ‘**All these years I’ve slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends. 30** Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!’ **31** “His father said to him, ‘Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and **everything I have is yours. 32** We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!’”
- “Everything that I have is yours.”
- Only **children** live actually live like this right?.
- Look at my kids: They need **water**...
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- **You ARE the King’s Kid**, and all that’s in HIS house is YOURS. You got it when you were adopted into the family.
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- **And yet**, so many of us live like one of these brothers in this story: Demoting ourselves to something other than child FIRST. And it’s for one of two reasons:

- **Shame or Pride.**
- **Shame says:** “You have performed so poorly that you are undeserving of the blessings of the Father and a place in his house”.
- Younger brother.
- “I will go home to my father and say, “Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.” **(Luke 15:18-19)**
 - Because of his poor performance, he was demoting himself from a son to a servant.
- **Shame says: “You don’t deserve to be treated like a son or daughter.”**
- **Pride** says “Your good performance will earn you the blessings of the Father, and a place in his house.”
- Older brother.
- “All these years I’ve slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends.” **(Luke 15:29)**
 - Because of his good performance, he expected reward for his service.
- **Pride says: “I’ve earned the right to be treated like a son or daughter”**
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- Both (shame and pride) actually come from the exact same place though: A misunderstanding of who you are, and who the Father is.
- So, the older brother saw the Father as a master who rewarded his children according to how well, or poorly they performed, but so did the younger brother.
- In both cases, the children misunderstood who their Father was.
- When you misunderstand who the Father is, then you miss you are.
- The Father IS NOT a slave master ready to deal out punishment to those who don’t perform well, and deal out blessing to those who do perform well.
- **God has grace in hand ready to deal out blessings to his children**, and NOT because we earned it, but because we are children, and children get all the blessings of their Father and their Father’s house.
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- Here God say: “Child, why have you demoted yourself to a servant? I’ve made you for more than that. I’ve saved you for more than that. I didn’t ask you to do that. And I didn’t adopt you to work in my house. I adopted you to be with me. That was my whole end game in sending Jesus — it always has been and forever will be about restoring relationship with you.”
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- **Jesus worked hard on the cross so that you could rest in his finished work.**
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- 2 Cor 5 says that Christ BECAME sin on our behalf that, IN TURN, we might BECOME the righteousness of God, in Him.”

- **GRACE proceeds EVERYTHING in the Kingdom of God.** GRACE = undeserved favor. It is getting what you DON'T deserve. **"Every spiritual blessing" is not a reward for a servant, it is a gift for a child."**
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- **Fellas:** don't demote yourself from a son to a servant, or from a son to a soldier.
- **Ladies,** don't downgrade yourself from a daughter to a slave.
- And the reason that the phrase "In Christ" or "through Christ" is used 12 times in these first 14 verses in Ephesians 1 is because that is where it is all found.
- **"Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ."**

"in Christ"

- Jesus is the only actual son in this whole situation. He is the only begotten of God. If anyone was going have access to everything that is the Father's, it would be Jesus and Jesus ALONE.
- But it doesn't say, **"Blessed is the God and Father Jesus who has blessed JESUS with every spiritual blessing in the heavens."** It says, **"Blessed is the God and Father of Jesus who has blessed US with every spiritual blessing in the heavens"**.
- **We** are the recipients of every spiritual blessing. **Why?** Because we are IN CHRIST.
- We have been given what is not rightfully ours, because everything that Christ is has been inputed to us.
- We are IN CHRIST. And IN CHRIST we get all that is His.
 - Christ has brought us into all of his privilege, authority, access, and position, so that we can partake of every single thing that is actually rightfully his and only his.
 - **"OH! What great love the Father has given us that we should be called the children of God." (John 3:1)**
- **We were not BORN as children of God. It is a gift of God's LOVE** **"What Great LOVE the father has given to us that we should be called the children of God"**.
- We have been united with Christ the only begotten son — adopted as kingdom kids who now get all the blessing of the King's House, who is our Father.
- All the blessing of the father and the father's house are ours because of what Christ has done.
- **What's his is mine. What's his is yours.**