



Lesson 3: Positional Blessings Pt. 2

Text: Ephesians 1:1-14

Key thought: Unearned blessing flow to all who are "in" Christ.

1. We have already seen how God, as an act of His will, makes believers holy, blameless, and adopts, accepts, redeems and forgives us. This lesson will focus on two more important blessings. Ephesians 1:9-12 speaks of a "mystery", something that was formerly unknown or clear. What is this mystery and who does it involve? (*Ephesians 3:1-7*)

A.

2. How did, at least, some Jewish Christians respond to this idea of God saving Gentiles? What did they think they had to do besides believe and trust in Christ? (*Acts 15:1, 5*)

A.

3. Peter was among the reluctant ones, at least at first. Through special revelation, God changed his mind using one aspect of the law of Moses. What was it and why was it so effective? (*Leviticus 11:1-8, Acts 10:9-16*).

A.

4. In Acts 15, a special counsel was assembled to consider whether Gentile believers should be accepted and whether or not they had to be circumcised. What evidence does Peter give for accepting them in without being circumcised? (*Acts 15:7-9; also see Romans 8:9*)

A.

5. Why is it ridiculous to expect anyone to keep the law of Moses in order to be saved? (*Acts 15:10-11; James 2:10; Galatians 3:24*)

A.

6. Not only are we blessed because we are united together with all believers, but also because God always keeps His promises! Who has been given to Christians to prove they are eternally secure? (*Ephesians 1:13-14*)

A.

7. He is called the "Holy Spirit of promise" because His presence in us means we are safe and secure. We are sealed with God's stamp and are preserved by His power and presence. What is the final outcome of God's work in us because of Christ and through the Holy Spirit? (*Ephesians 1:14; Romans 8:22-23*)

A.

TIME PERMITTING: How is the glorious truth further described in 1 Corinthians 15:53-57?

A.