

THE CHURCH BLESSED AND CHOSEN

Ephesians 1: 1-14 context focus v. 3-4

Jesus said, "I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matt. 16:18 Paul said, "The church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." I Tim. 3:15

Therefore the message is timeless profitable and transformative. The church proclaims Jesus the hope of the world. God is sovereign and we are made to be sustained by a purposeful hopeful future Jeremiah 29:11

- BLESSED BE The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ .v 3
 1. The one who pours out blessings, favor,

_____ ... Psalm 103, Rev. 5:13, Nu. 6:24-26
 2. Even in sorrow and grief,

_____ 2Cor.1:3-5
- THE BLESSINGS v. 3 a benefit bestowed "to speak well of" blesses us; "IN CHRIST" v.3-14 adoption, redemption, inheritance Matt.5 Beatitudes - the character of true saints
- THE CHOSEN v.4
 - What- God _____ Jn.1:12
 - When - before _____
 - Why – to be _____
 - How – in love _____
 - The Sovereignty of God (insert)
 - The Church is like an Army
 - October 21, 1988 Johnny Carson Orel Hershiser
 - Believers not connected to the Church is like scattered sheep without a Shepherd, no protection,
_____?

EPHESIANS 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.