**“*Blessings Upon Blessings – In Christ*”**

**Ephesians 1:9-14**

**Intro:** Seven blessings are found in **Ephesians 1:4-14**. Already we’ve learned that **(1)** God chose us. **(2)** God adopted us. **(3)** God gave us redemption and forgiveness.

The forth blessing is found in **Ephesians 1:9-10**

* **Blessing #4:** “*God has made known to us the mystery of His will.”*

The word used here for *mystery* is a word that’s used a lot in the New Testament. It’s a word that literally means – *a secret that’s now been revealed*.

*These two verses answer four real simple questions about what this mystery is***:**

* **Why?**
* **How?**
* **When?**
* **What**’s the mystery**?**

He’s decided “*to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, Jesus Christ*.”

There are some powerful implications of this mystery…

1. **Ephesians 3:6** says that part of this mystery of God summing up and bringing everything together in Christ *means that through this mystery, the gospel, the Gentiles are co-heirs with Israel*.
2. **Colossians 1:27** tells us sort of a personal implication of this mystery.

“*To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you the hope of glory.*”

1. **Ephesians 1:10** says that He’s going to “*put this all in effect*” through Jesus Christ.

The Greek work translated “*to be put into effect*” literally means – *to manage a household*.

* **Blessing #5:** I am chosen for an inheritance. **Ephesians 1:11**

That word used there for “*chosen*” is the only time it is used in the New Testament. This word “chosen” can have two different meanings. It can mean – *chosen* ***as*** *an inheritance* or it can mean – *chosen* ***for*** *an inheritance*.

Chosen ***for*** an inheritance –

Chosen ***as*** an inheritance –

* **Blessing #6:** I am included in Christ. **Ephesians 1:13**

 *Included in Christ –*

* **Blessing #7:** We were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit. That's come into our lives. **(vs. 13-14)**

I have the guarantee of the Holy Spirit in my life – a living guarantee of God’s Spirit within my life.

1. *The Holy Spirit is the* ***seal*** *who* ***marks*** *us*.
2. The ***seal*** means completion.

1. To be ***marked*** means authentic ownership.
2. The seal means authority.
3. The Holy Spirit is a deposit who guarantees our inheritance.

Seven Blessing that are true for every believer in-Christ as found in **Ephesians 1:4-14:**

1. He chose us in Christ before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. **(vs. 4)**
2. He adopted us as sons through His Son Jesus Christ. **(vs. 5)**
3. We have redemption and forgiveness through the blood of Christ. **(vs. 7)**
4. He made know to us the mystery of His wisdom and understanding. **(vs. 8-9)**
5. We were chosen to be living examples that would bring praise and glory to Him. **(vs. 11-12)**
6. We were included in Christ when we heard the word of truth, the gospel of salvation. **(vs. 13)**
7. We were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit. That's come into our lives. **(vs. 13-14)**