



Do we take the Gospel for Granted?

Ephesians 1:1-14



LIFE Fellowship Class of 2011

“God makes it quite clear in his word that he has only one answer to every human need- **His Son, Jesus Christ.**

God will answer all our questions in one way, namely by showing us more of his son”

-Watchman Nee

**How Real is the Gospel in
your life?**

We need to **be Saved Every day.**

Background on Ephesians:

Chapter 1-3 → **The Gospel Explained**

Chapter 4-6 → **The Gospel Applied**

Roadmap

- I. The Father **Who Chose Us** (v 1-6)
- II. The Son **Who Redeems Us** (v 7-12)
- III. The **Holy Spirit Who Seals Us** (v 13-14)

I. The Father Who Chose Us

Ephesians 1:3-6

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For **he chose us** in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ **he predestined us for adoption** to sonship **through Jesus Christ**, in accordance with his pleasure and will— ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

The Need for **Acceptance**



TOP 5 HARDEST COLLEGES TO GET INTO



Caltech



Harvard



Columbia



Stanford



MIT

I. The Father Who Chose Us

College Acceptances:

5. **Columbia University:** 3.73%

4. **Stanford University:** 3.68%

3. **MIT:** 3.37%

2. **Harvard University:** 3.19%

1. **Caltech:** 2.69%

I. The Father Who Chose Us

- **WANTING TO BE CHOSEN AND ACCEPTED** is one of the deepest longings that we have as human beings

Ephesians 1:4-5

“⁴ For **he chose us** in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ **he predestined us** for adoption to sonship **through Jesus Christ**, in accordance with his pleasure and will”

I. The Father Who Chose Us

Why ME?? Why US??

I. The Father Who Chose Us

Why ME?? Why US??

- **A Father's Love** → He will go 200% to be with His children.

Luke 15:20 → “while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and **was filled with compassion** for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.”

- **“Splagchnizomai”** – A GUT FEELING of deep love or FEELING DEEP IN THE HEART

I. The Father Who Chose Us

1 Timothy 1:15-17 → “This saying is trustworthy and deserve full acceptance, that Jesus Christ came to save sinners, **of whom I am the worst.**”

- Paul considered himself THE WORST SINNER OF ALL! There's no place for Paul's BOAST here, Just praise be to God.

**How was the
Father's love
accomplished?**



II. The Son Who Redeems us

God's plan was executed and accomplished...

THROUGH THE REDEPTIVE WORK OF CHRIST

Ephesians 1:5-8 → **In love** ⁵ **he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ...** ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding... to bring **unity** to all things in heaven and on earth **under Christ.**

II. The Son Who Redeems us

(Jesus) said to them, **“The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise.”** ³² But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it. – **Mark 9:30-32**

II. The Son Who Redeems us

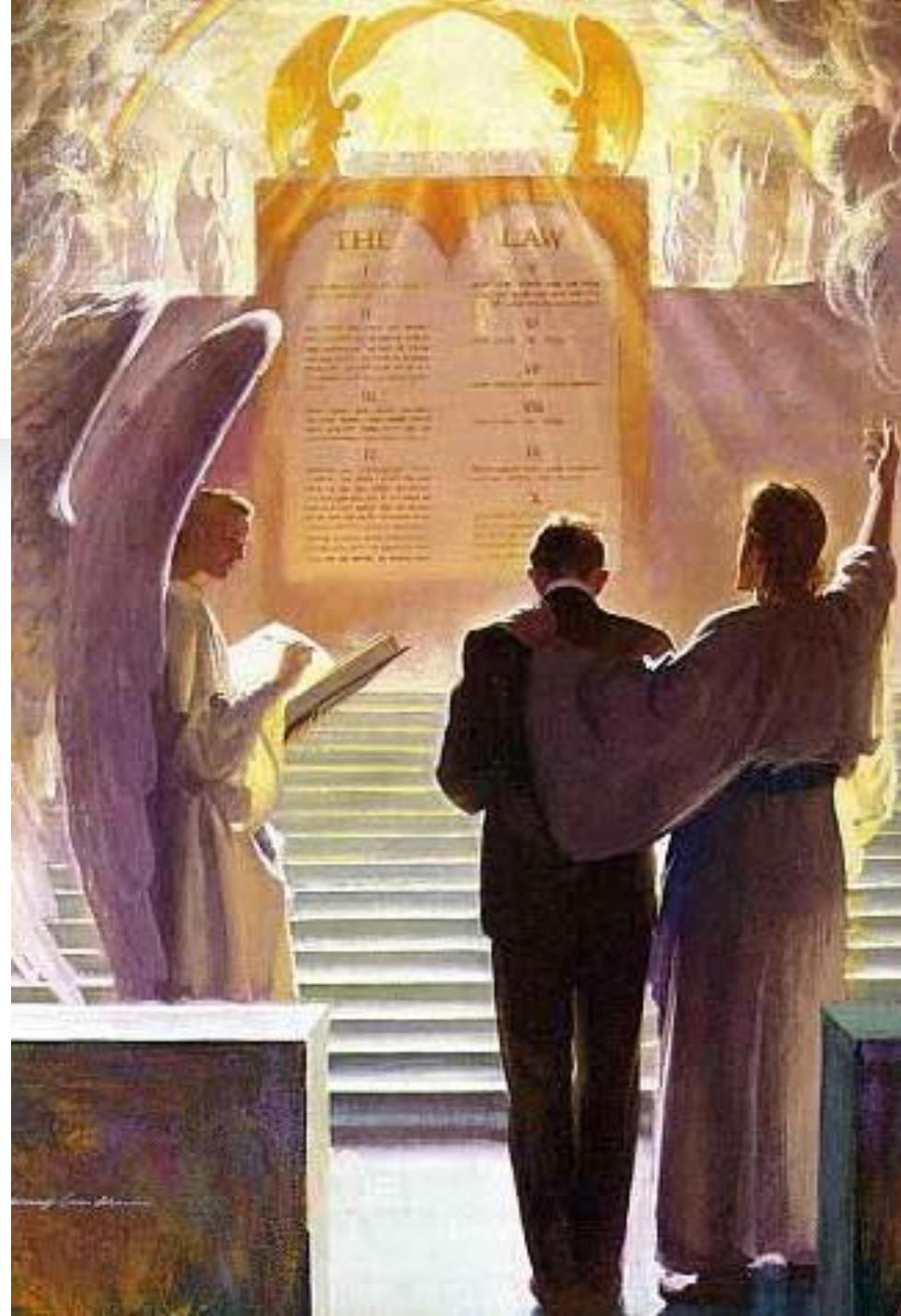
2 Corinthians 5:21 → “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, **so that in him** we might become the righteousness of God.”

Isaiah 53:5 → “But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and **with his wounds we are healed.**”

II. The Son Who Redeems us

The Bible says that Jesus is **an Advocate** for those who've put their trust in Him:

“My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But **if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous**” - 1 John 2:1



II. The Son Who Redeems us

“In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son **to be the propitiation for our sins.**”

1 John 4:10

II. The Son Who Redeems us

I. Jesus Humbled Himself to save us from our sins.

Philippians 2:6-11 → “Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage, ⁷ rather, **he made himself nothing** by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness... ⁹ Therefore **God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name.** ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth.

II. The Son Who Redeems us

II. Through Christ's Work and Obedience, All things in heaven and on earth is now under Christ!

Ephesians 1:9-10 → “With all wisdom and understanding, ⁹ he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰ to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth: **under Christ.**”

II. The Son Who Redeems us

Revelation 7:9-10

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, **standing before the throne and before the Lamb.** They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice:

**“Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb.”**

III. The Holy Spirit Seals Us

Ephesians 1:13-14 → When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, **the promised Holy Spirit,**¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

The Holy Spirit → The **Most Intimate Member** of the Trinity

III. The Holy Spirit Seals Us

The Holy Spirit will teach us and guide us

John 14:26-27 → ²⁶ But **the Advocate**, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, **will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.**

The Holy Spirit Lives inside us and never leaves us.

1 Cor. 6:19-20 → ¹⁹ Do you not know that **your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit**, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.



III. The Holy Spirit Seals Us

“When you believe in Christ as your savior, God puts you inside an envelope called Christ. You are “In Christ.”

But god also guarantees delivery. He registers the letter and seals it with the Holy spirit indicating **that he is the owner and the only one qualified to open it”**

– Pastor Tony Evans.

III. The Holy Spirit Seals Us

The Holy Spirit SEALS you in Christ for all Eternity:

1. If you are truly in Christ, **No one can take you away from the Love of God.**
2. He will always draw you back to Him.
3. You will know that **He is Good** (Romans 8:28)

Conclusion

FATHER CHOSE US

SON REDEEMS US

HOLY SPIRIT SEALS US to the end

Conclusion

FATHER CHOSE US

SON REDEEMS US

HOLY SPIRIT SEALS US to the end

Let's put our **TRUST IN HIS LOVE!!**

- Romans 8:31 → ³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?**