

# Operation Thunderbolt











## Ephesians 1:1-14

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:  
<sup>2</sup> Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.



## Ephesians 1:1-14

<sup>3</sup> 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.





# Ephesians 1:1-14

<sup>4</sup> For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love



## Ephesians 1:1-14

<sup>5</sup>he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.



## Ephesians 1:1-14

<sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.



## Ephesians 1:1-14

<sup>9</sup> And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ,



## Ephesians 1:1-14

<sup>10</sup> to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment—to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.



## Ephesians 1:1-14

<sup>11</sup> In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, <sup>12</sup> in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.



## Ephesians 1:1-14

<sup>13</sup> And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,



# Ephesians 1:1-14

<sup>14</sup> who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory



“The purpose of Ephesians is to promote a love for one another that has the love of God and Christ as its basis.”

(Harold Hoehner)



# Review of Ephesians 1:3-6





## Ephesians 4:1–2

<sup>1</sup> As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

<sup>2</sup> Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.



He is *worthy* of our praise  
simply because of who he is; he  
is also *deserving* of our praise  
because of what He has done.



## Psalm 8:4

<sup>4</sup> what is man that you are  
mindful of him, the son of man  
that you care for him?



# The Nature of Our Blessing

1. They are from God





# The Nature of Our Blessing

1. They are from God
2. They have their origin in heaven



# The Nature of Our Blessing

1. They are from God
2. They have their origin in heaven
3. They are supernatural



# The Nature of Our Blessing

1. They are from God
2. They have their origin in heaven
3. They are supernatural
4. They are ours in Christ



1. He chose us (vs. 4)





“The divine purpose in our election was not simply to repair the damage done by sin but also to fulfil God’s original intention for humankind, namely, to create for himself a people perfectly conformed to the likeness of his Son.”





2. He predestined us to  
be adopted as sons





3. According to his  
pleasure and will





4. All “for the praise of the  
glory of his grace.”





The word grace in the Bible means  
“unmerited divine assistance given  
humans for their regeneration or  
sanctification...”





## Ephesians 1:7–8

<sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.



# 5. Our redemption (vs. 7)





# Five Points About Redemption

A. This happens in Christ





# Five Points About Redemption

A. This happens in Christ

B. It is redemption



the NT usage of ἀπολύτρωσις refers to one set free on the basis of a ransom paid to God by Christ's death.<sup>7</sup> It is granted that the main import of this word is release or setting free rather than payment, but it does not exclude the latter



## Colossians 1:13–14

<sup>13</sup> For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,  
<sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.



# Five Points About Redemption

A. This happens in Christ

B. It is redemption

C. It is through the blood of Christ



## Leviticus 17:11

<sup>11</sup> For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.



## Romans 3:24–25

<sup>24</sup> and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup> God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood...





## 1 Peter 1:18–19

<sup>18</sup> For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.



## Hebrews 9:22

<sup>22</sup> In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.



# Five Points About Redemption

A. This happens in Christ

B. It is redemption

C. It is through the blood of Christ

D. It brings the forgiveness of sins



Forgiveness is God's act of grace whereby He pardons a sinner, so that he or she no longer faces eternal condemnation for sin.





“redemption is the cause and forgiveness is the effect.”





Sin = “a conscious and willful  
act against God’s holiness and  
righteousness”

(Hoehner)



## Romans 3:10–12

<sup>10</sup> As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one; <sup>11</sup> there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. <sup>12</sup> All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.”



## Colossians 1:21

21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.



What is central to the gospel, and a true measure of God's grace and love, is the identification of God, specifically his Messiah, whose blood is offered on the cross (cf. 2:14–16)





The offended party pays the  
price of peace—his own life!





# Five Points About Redemption

- A. This happens in Christ
- B. It is redemption
- C. It is through the blood of Christ
- D. It brings the forgiveness of sins
- E. It is all of grace



“God’s lavish dispensing of grace in redemption involves forgiveness and the wisdom to know how to live in light of His saving plan...”





# Conclusion:





Ephesians 4:1 (LB) I beg you—I, a prisoner here in jail for serving the Lord—to live and act in a way worthy of those who have been chosen for such wonderful blessings as these.