

“Accepted in the Beloved”

Ephesians 1:3-10

Ephesians 1:3-6

- “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved.”

Ephesians 1:7-10

- “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, 9 having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, 10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth--in Him.”

Praise God For His Redemption

- The character of His redemption
 - “lutroo,” meaning “to effect the release of a slave by paying the redemption price”
- Every person born into this world becomes a slave of sin when they reach accountability
 - Rom. 3:23 - “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”

Praise God For His Redemption

- Rom. 6:23 - “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
- Ez. 18:4 - “Behold, all souls are Mine; The soul of the father As well as the soul of the son is Mine; The soul who sins shall die.”
- John 8:34 - “Jesus answered them, Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.”

Praise God For His Redemption

- Jesus gave Himself, the innocent for the guilty, that the guilty might go free.
 - Gal. 1:3-4 - “Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father”
 - Gal. 3:13 - “Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”
 - Gal. 5:1 - “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.”

Praise God For His Redemption

- Col. 1:13-14 - “He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”
- Heb. 2:14-15 - “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”
- Rev. 5:9 - “And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation”

Praise God For His Redemption

- He redeemed us for a purpose
 - Gal. 4:5 - “To redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.”
 - 1Peter 1:18-19 - “Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

Praise God For His Redemption

- He redeemed us for a purpose
 - 1Cor. 6:19-20 - “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.”

Praise God For His Redemption

- The cost of His redemption
- At no cost to us
 - Rev. 22:17 - “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.”
 - Isa. 55:1 - “Ho! Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters; And you who have no money, Come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.”

Praise God For His Redemption

- The entire price was paid by Deity
 - 2Cor. 5:21 - “For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”
 - 1John 4:10 - “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

Praise God For His Redemption

- The cause of His redemption: God's grace
 - Rom. 5:20 - "Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more"
 - Heb. 7:25 - "Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them."

Praise God For The Results

- The redeemed have been released
- When the Lord forgives, He also forgets
 - Psalm 103:12 - “As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.”
 - Isa. 38:17 - “Indeed it was for my own peace That I had great bitterness; But You have lovingly delivered my soul from the pit of corruption, For You have cast all my sins behind Your back.”
 - Isa. 43:25 - “I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins.”

Praise God For The Results

- Jer. 50:20 - "In those days and in that time," says the LORD, The iniquity of Israel shall be sought, but there shall be none; And the sins of Judah, but they shall not be found; For I will pardon those whom I preserve."
- Mic. 7:19 - "He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins Into the depths of the sea."
- 1John 1:7 - "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."
- John 1:29 - "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

Praise God For The Results

- The redeemed have been reconciled -- “made accepted in the beloved”
- We were not acceptable
 - Eph. 2:1-3 - “And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.”

Praise God For The Results

- He made us acceptable
 - Eph. 2:4-6 - “But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus”

Praise God For His Reasons

- The wonder of His grace -- What is grace?
 - “God’s riches at Christ’s expense.”
 - “The unearned love and favor of God for the undeserving.”
 - “Any movement of God makes toward man.”

Praise God For His Reasons

- The wonder of His glory -- God's redemptive plan cannot do anything but bring Him glory.
 - Every soul that is saved fulfills God's plan to redeem sinners and it brings Him glory.
 - Every soul that resists and rejects salvation glorifies God because in the Judgment, God is vindicated by overcoming the will of man when He sends the impenitent sinner to Perdition

Praise God For His Reasons

- The wonder of His goal: to make our Savior the King of kings
 - Col. 2:10 - “And you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.”
 - Col. 1:18 - “And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.”
 - Psalm 72:11 - “Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him; All nations shall serve Him.”

Praise God For His Reasons

- Rev. 19:11-16 - “Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.”

Praise God For His Reasons

- To make us kings with Him
 - 2Tim. 2:12 - “If we endure, We shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us.”
 - Rom. 8:16-17 - “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”
 - 1Peter 4:13 - “But rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.”

“Accepted in the Beloved”

- God takes us, the unacceptable, and makes us more than accepted; He makes us the offspring of Deity
- Psalm 113:5-8 - “Who is like the LORD our God, Who dwells on high, 6 Who humbles Himself to behold The things that are in the heavens and in the earth? 7 He raises the poor out of the dust, And lifts the needy out of the ash heap, 8 That He may seat him with princes- With the princes of His people.”