

Memory Verse

Ephesians 1:13

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”

GRACELIFE



CHURCH



A Great

SALVATION

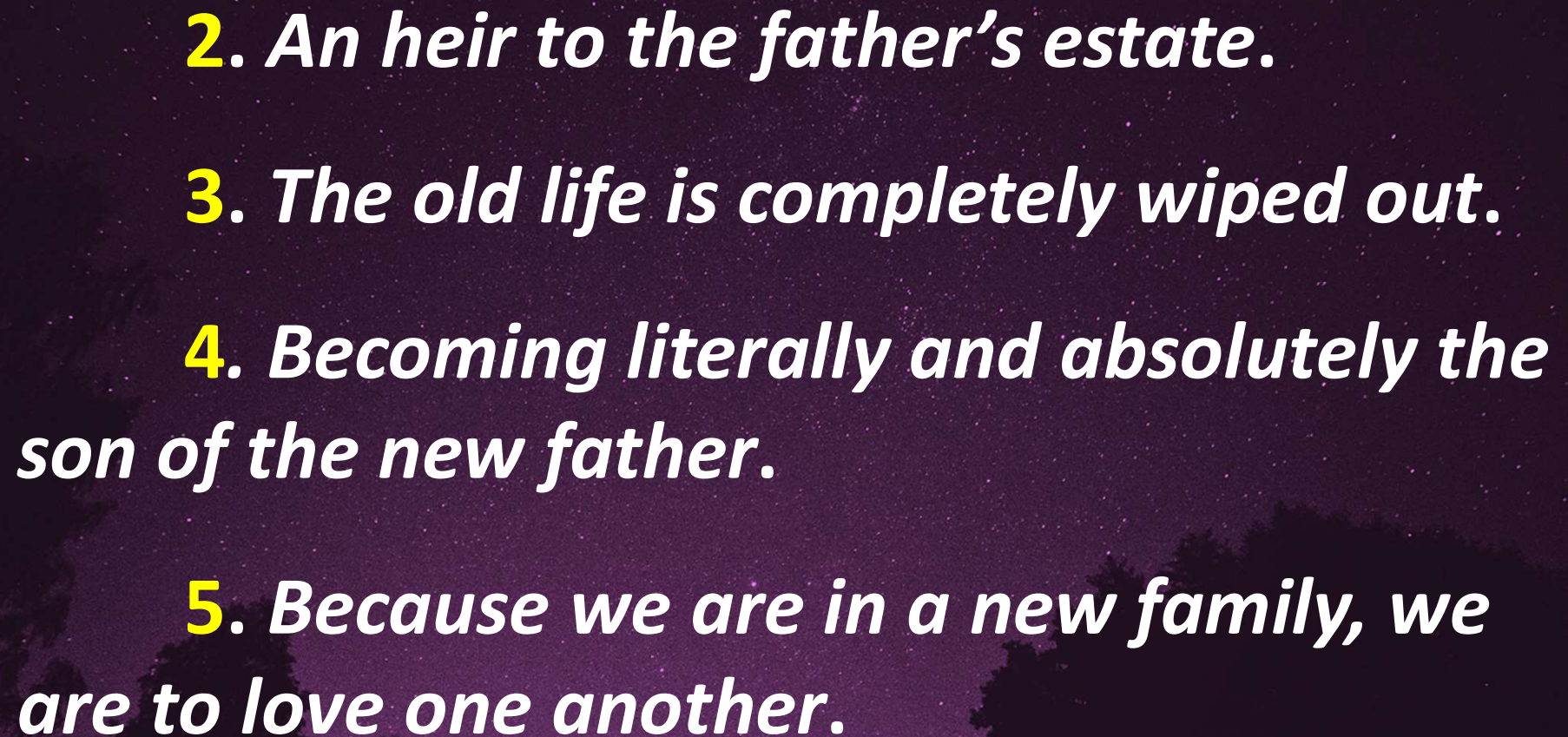
Part 9

Eternally Secure in Christ

Ephesians 1-2

We defined the **Gospel**, studied the 3 “phases” of **salvation**, looked at **Redemption**, **Peace** and **Hope**, and last time studied **Adoption** within the context of Roman culture and the New Testament:

- 1. Losing all rights to the old family and gaining all rights of the new family as a fully legitimate son.**

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- 2. *An heir to the father's estate.***
 - 3. *The old life is completely wiped out.***
 - 4. *Becoming literally and absolutely the son of the new father.***
 - 5. *Because we are in a new family, we are to love one another.***

There was a *struggle between Jews and Gentiles* within the *Ephesian Assembly*. In *chapters 1-2*, Paul first addresses the **Jews**, and then the **Gentiles**, and states many ways they are *unified in Christ*.

A. Ephesians 1:5-6 – Election in Christ

Ephesians 1:3-6 - 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, 4even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus

A. Ephesians 1:5-6 – Election in Christ

Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

A. Ephesians 1:5-6 – Election in Christ

Paul is talking to the Jews, because of the pronouns "**us**" and "**we**." Though his emphasis is the **Jews**, he records that *Gentiles* have been brought into the **spiritual blessings** in Christ. Next, Paul says this about the Jews...

A. Ephesians 1:5-6 – Election in Christ

1. Chosen 1:4, 2:1, 5

Verses 3-14 are a doxology or **praise**, and it is the longest sentence in Greek in the Bible.

The Jews were a **chosen people**, which Paul reiterates in 1:4, 2:1, 5. In the Old Testament, God chose Israel! *Election* has to do with purpose...

A. Ephesians 1:5-6 – Election in Christ

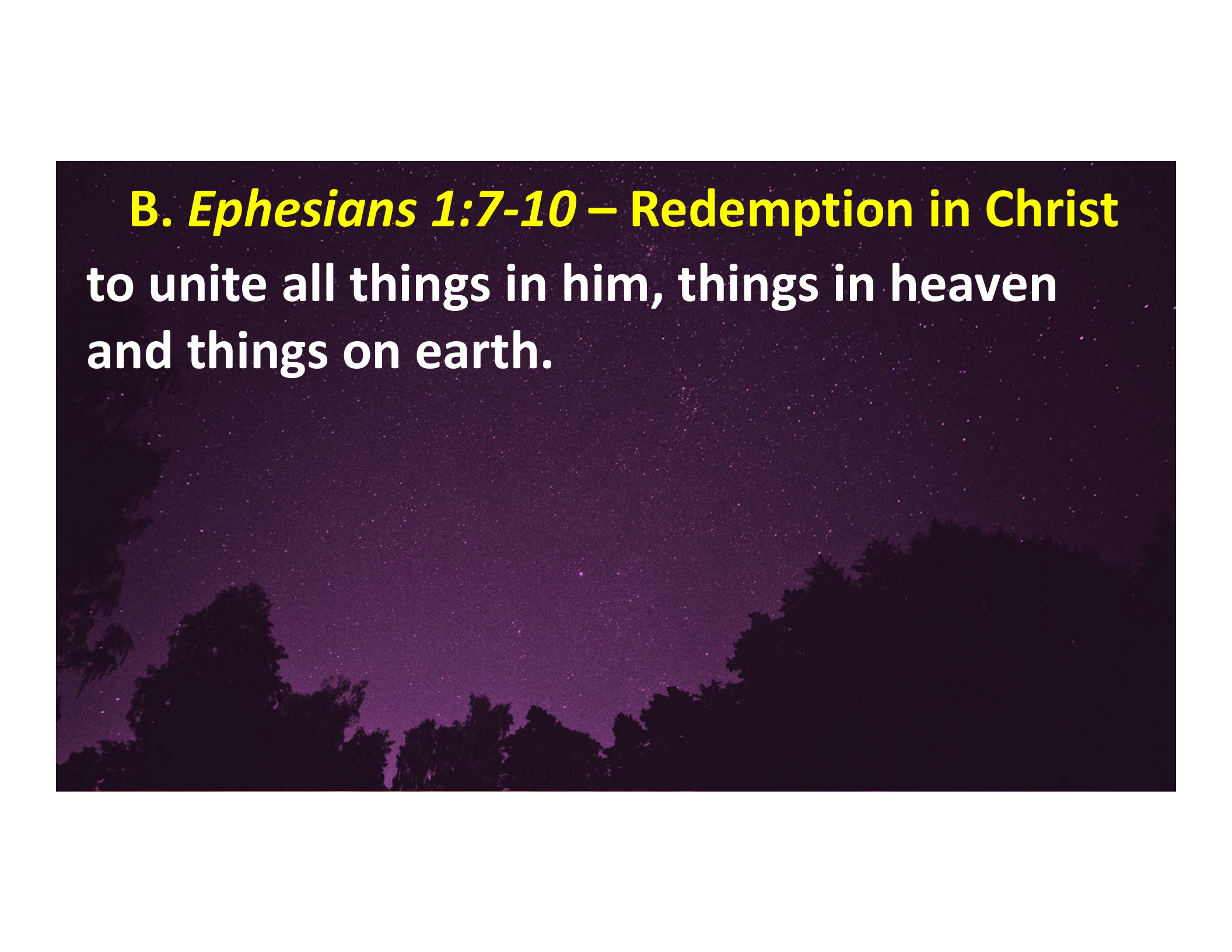
2. Predestined 1:5, 11

In **love**, He *predestined* them: 1:5, 11, or *marked out beforehand* or *predetermine*.

This refers to the Jews predestined to be *adopted by His will*. If they were *chosen in Christ*, predestined to adoption by God's decision, ***how can they lose that...***

B. Ephesians 1:7-10 – Redemption in Christ

Ephesians 1:7-10 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10as a plan for the fullness of time,



B. *Ephesians 1:7-10* – Redemption in Christ
to unite all things in him, things in heaven
and things on earth.

B. *Ephesians 1:7-10* – Redemption in Christ

1. Through His Blood - 7

2. Forgiven - 7

3. By Grace - 7-8

4. Purpose in Christ - 9-10

C. 1:11-14, 18 – Inheritance in Christ

Ephesians 1:11-14, 18 - 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, 12so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. 13In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation,

C. 1:11-14, 18 – Inheritance in Christ

and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory... 18having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.

C. 1:11-14, 18 – Inheritance in Christ

1. Inheritance - 11-12, 14

Paul talks to the *Jews about their inheritance, which was everything*. It included land, finances, and a spiritual blessing. If these were *lost*, it would have been a catastrophe. In *verse 13*, Paul **changes pronouns** to "you" and "your," referring to the **Gentiles**...

C. 1:11-14, 18 – Inheritance in Christ

2. Sealed - 13-14, 2 Cor. 1:21-22

...Sealing meant *ownership, protection and security*. There is more, but these 3 will suffice. The *one who sealed* something ***owned*** it, ***protected*** it and ***promised security*** for it. Salvation is of the Lord, and He seals us, owns us and protects us...

C. 1:11-14, 18 – Inheritance in Christ

2. Sealed - 13-14, 2 Cor. 1:21-22

The **Holy Spirit**. He indwells believers at the moment of salvation. *Galatians 3:14b* says we receive ...*the promise of the Spirit through faith*. Because He indwells us we have confidence we **can't** lose our salvation. *The Holy Spirit is God's gift.*

C. 1:11-14, 18 – Inheritance in Christ

3. Adopted - 1:5, Rom. 8:14-15, Gal. 4:4-5

...He owns us! He bought us from slavery and bondage to become His and we are His slave. Yet, we are also *His children*. As His child, He promises to protect and provide for us. Remember, in ancient Rome, *once you were adopted*, you could **not** be un-adopted...

D. Ephesians 2:1-10 – Security in Christ

1. The Nature of Mankind – 2:1-3, 5

Ephesians 2:1-3, 5 - And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience - 3among whom we all once

D. Ephesians 2:1-10 – Security in Christ

1. The Nature of Mankind – 2:1-3, 5

lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind... 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved...

D. Ephesians 2:1-10 – Security in Christ

2. The Love of God – 2:4, 6-10

Ephesians 2:4, 6-10 - But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us... 6and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his

D. *Ephesians 2:1-10* – Security in Christ

2. The Love of God – 2:4, 6-10

grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

D. Ephesians 2:1-10 – Security in Christ

2. The Love of God – 2:4, 6-10

He saved them and us because of His **love** and **grace**. We are **secure** in Christ because salvation is not by works, but by His work and grace. We are *saved to do good works, not saved or kept by doing good works*. If we are not secure in His love, then we are in big trouble...

E. What About...

1. **Revelation 3:5** – He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life.
2. **Judas** – never truly believed.
3. **1 John 3:4-6 – vs. 6** – whoever abides in Him, does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.

E. What About...

4. ***Philippians 2:12*** – Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

5. ***Galatians 5:4*** – You have become estranged (*separated*) from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law, you have fallen (*lose one's grasp*) from grace.

E. What About...

6. **James 2:17, 20, 26** – Faith without works is dead.

7. **Hebrews 6:4-6 and 10:26-31.**

8. Is it **arrogant** to say “I have eternal life and am secure?”

9. I don't **feel** saved.

E. What About...

10. *If I am secure, I can **continue to live in sin.***

*A billion times **NO!** Anyone who understands the grace of God **WILL NOT** want to continue in a life of sin. Those who think God's grace is license to sin **do not know God's grace!***

E. What About...

Other phrases describe our security:

Eternal life: *Matthew 25:46, John 3:14-16 (2 times), John 10:27-29, Acts 13:48, Romans 5:21, Titus 3:7, and 1 John: 2:25, 5:11-13.* – *Eternal life is connected to the Person of Christ! We are in Him and He is in us, forever. In Hebrews 13:5 God said will never leave you or forsake you...*

E. What About...

In *Romans 8:28-39*, we find that believers are ...**more** than conquerors – or a "super" or "over-conqueror," referring to the *certainty of victory*. **Nothing** can separate us from God's love in/through Christ Jesus our Lord. The word "separate" in *verses 35 and 39* mean, "to put apart, separate, sever..."