

DEEP IN SCRIPTURE

Verses & Notes August 22, 2007

Ephesians 1: 1-23

1: Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are also faithful in Christ Jesus:
2: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- 3: 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,
4: even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.
5: He destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,
6: to the praise of his glorious grace which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
7: In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace
8: which he lavished upon us.
9: For he has made known to us in all wisdom and insight the mystery of his will, according to his purpose which he set forth in Christ
10: as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.
11: In him, according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to the counsel of his will,
12: we who first hoped in Christ have been destined and appointed to live for the praise of his glory.
13: In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,
14: which is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.
15: For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints,
16: I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers,
17: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him,
18: having 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,
19: and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power in us who believe, according to the working of his great might
20: which he accomplished in Christ when he raised him from the dead and made him sit at his right hand in the heavenly places,
21: far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come;
22: and he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church,
23: which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Key to Highlighting:

- References to God the Father
- References to Jesus Christ
- References that could be either God the Father or Jesus Christ
- References to the Holy Spirit

Introduction:

- One of the dangers of our 21st century faith is that we can become apathetic, matter-of-fact about very important, essential aspects of our Christian faith. We've heard it all from the day we were born, over and over, maybe we've never lived personally in an area or amongst people who challenged key truths of our faith, and so we just take them for granted. Especially a doctrine like the Trinity, the central doctrine of our Christian faith, many believe it to be true, profess it every week in worship, but come Sunday afternoon through the next Sunday morning, it gets placed up on the nice shelf. This is part of what we will discuss today on **Deep In Scripture**.

Discussion:

- Welcome....website ... Phone numbers ... special: "The Compendium of the Catechism"
- In our study of Ephesians, we have completed chapter 1, which consists basically of a greeting and then two long sentences of praise to God for what He done by grace for newly baptized Gentile believers.
- I feel like we have only skimmed the surface ...so before we move on, we wanted to take one last look as an overview of some key truths that we may have glanced over.

A. The apathy of our 21st century assumptions;

B. The courage of this 1st century Apostle (Phil 1:19-26);

C. The personhood of God;

D. The Trinity

E. The working of the Trinity in History;

F. The Necessity of the Church