

## He Holds the Future 2020-12-27

### Eph 1:3-10

*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.*

*In love 5 he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed 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, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us 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.*

Times theological truth revealed by God in tangible way: produces worship/faith.

- Happened to me: Lisa/Abby....get project
  - Found business card from 5 years ago....will sell! Picture of car
- After purchase Oct 18 "Why bless me by fulfilling foolish desires?"
  - God, "I'm sovereign even over what you enjoy/like so you glorify me."

Jesus is sovereign even if raised to enjoy: God placed you in that family.

- Some enjoy: make quilts, cooking/baking, read books (Xmas presents), hunt/fish, run (Eric Liddell: I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast. And when I run I feel his pleasure).
  - Careful not make into idols or all consuming.

God sovereign over what we like/enjoy so we blessed and are a blessing.

- Use to serve others with gifts/passions.....Kyle
- Uses to bring light of Gospel to certain groups of people. Lions w/lions!
  - Find me at car shows not art shows, junkyards not golf course.
    - God place you in sphere of influence....some overlap.

Main point not God's sovereignty over preferences for His glory but King Jesus is always directing/orchestrating the future for His glory/our good.

- Less theological: Jesus is always way ahead of us.....tangible evidence = License plate
- 40 years ago God put in barn when I lost and driving 68 convertible.
  - God was preparing physical blessing for me before I knew Him....
    - Has been eternally preparing spiritual blessings for all Christians.

- If personalize truths: worship not worry, faith not fear.

Jesus graciously, lovingly predestined you for salvation BEFORE He created all things.

### Ephesians 1:3-6, Colossians 1:16-17, John 1:1-3

- Jesus fore-ordained, before foundation of world, to redeem YOU by his blood.
  - When created earth, He specifically made the place you now live with intent you be His witness there to your neighbors.

▪ You may be only Christian to ever live on that piece of terra firma Jesus is eternal God of the ages who spoke universe into existence came 2000 years ago and was clothed in human flesh and dwelt among us! Matthew 1:23, John 1:14, Galatians 4:4-5

- Christmas celebrates that for God's glory and your salvation Jesus became what He was not previously (man) without ceasing to be God.....Immanuel.

While on earth Jesus lived sinless life and prayed for you. John 17:20-24

- On the cross His righteousness (perfect holiness) was imputed to us, while our sin was imputed to Him....the great exchange. 2 Corinthians 5:21, Ephesians 1:7-9

- Stop looking at cross in general terms....personalize.

- He knew He punished for YOUR sin BEFORE you committed.

Christ's work to secure salvation of elect completed on cross ("It is finished!") but His care for His redeemed children will never be finished.

- Continues to pray for you now when you don't ask Him to....Christ's high priestly ministry. Romans 8:34, Hebrews 7:25, Berkhof

- Be encouraged...greatest man of prayer ever born praying for you!

- Making specific requests/petitions before Father on your behalf.

- Like "place" now, Jesus prepared and knows exactly your place in present heaven and future new heaven/earth. John 14:2, Hebrews 11:16b, Revelation 21:1-2, 1 Corinthians 2:9, Ephesians 1:9b-10

- Live in light of truth that our inheritance is someone not something.

THE sovereign King with authority over heaven/earth, your creator/Savior/friend, always been and always be directing/orchestrating your future for His glory/your good.

- Jesus is way ahead of you and mankind.
  - Not know what future holds, but I know Jesus holds the future.
- Let that truth replace fear with faith, worry with worship!
  - Come let us adore Him!