

**— Knowing Christ, Spring 2008 —**  
**The Church and the Trinity**  
**Ephesians 1**

**Ephesians: Spiritual Blessings in Christ**

- 1. Doctrine of the Church (1-3)**
- 2. Practice of the Church (4-6)**

**Ephesians 1**

- 1. Introduction and greeting – 1:1-2**
- 2. Doxology – 1:3-14**
  - Father**
  - Son**
  - Holy Spirit**
- 3. Prayer – 1:15-23**

# The Doxology

## **Greek:**

doxa = glory

logos = word

## **English:**

Doxology = a word of praise

## **Ephesians 1:3-15**

to the praise of His glory

## **Do we bless God or does He bless us?**

## **Greek: eulogeo**

eu = well

logos = a word

## **English:**

Bless = speak well of

## **Ephesians 1:3**

Adjective – “Blessed be the God and Father . . .”

Verb – “Who has blessed us . . .”

Noun – “with every spiritual blessing . . .”

We bless God!

He blesses us!

He gives blessings.

# **The blessings of the Trinity – The Father**

## **Ephesians 1:3-6**

### **The Father has blessed us**

#### **The manner of blessings**

1. He chose us

Two options:

- ▶ God blesses those who choose blessing
- ▶ God sovereignly chooses to bless

Two arguments for the sovereign choice of God

- ▶ It was before the foundation of the world
- ▶ It was in order to make us worthy

2. He predestined us to adoption as sons

- ▶ Full realization of the blessings of God
- ▶ Joint-heirs with Christ

#### **The blessings**

1. Holiness
2. Blamelessness – forgiven
3. Adoption as sons
4. Accepted in Christ

#### **The cause of the blessings**

1. He loved us (1:4)
2. Good pleasure of His will (1:5)
3. His grace (1:6)
4. Wisdom and prudence/understanding (1:8)
5. His Good pleasure purposed in Himself (1:8)
6. Counsel of His will (1:11)

## **The blessings of the Trinity – The Son Ephesians 1:7-12**

Redemption through His blood

The forgiveness of sins

Revelation

Union with Christ

Inheritance

The means – faith (1:12)

## **The blessings of the Trinity – The Spirit Ephesians 1:13-14**

Sealed with the Spirit

The timing – after faith

# Paul's First Prayer

## Ephesians 1:15-23

Thanksgiving

To the Triune God  
For their faith and love

Petition

Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him

Three objectives

- ▶ Know the hope of His calling
- ▶ Know riches of glory of His inheritance in the saints
- ▶ Know exceeding greatness of His power

Hope

Resurrection

Exaltation in the heavenly and earth

Head over the Church which is His fullness

## Practical Considerations

- ▶ The greatness of God's glory
- ▶ The centrality of Jesus Christ
- ▶ Priorities of the believer