



Poima

“The Work of Christ Part 1”

Ephesians 1:7-10

God’s plan of redemption makes no sense to the human mind. Why would innocence be sacrificed for the guilty? Why would perfection take on imperfection? Why would holiness take on sin? Because it is the only way humankind can be made right. It is the only way that a relationship broken by the created can be repaired and restored by the Creator. Sin has an enormous price, and Jesus has paid it.

Spiritually, emotionally, and physically we are made right with God the Father through the work of the Son. As we have seen thus far in this study, God the Father predetermined our salvation and subsequent sanctification. Jesus executed the plan of God that was put in motion even before the world was created...before He breathed life into Adam whom He created from the dust of the ground.

The work of Jesus on the cross carries a depth of HEALING, unlike anything else in all facets of our human EXISTENCE. (Ephesians 1:7-10)

The blessing of God in the work of Christ for us can be seen in five areas:

REDEMPTION. (v.7a)

The word redemption has to do with the emancipation either of slaves or of prisoners. The term also implies the payment of a ransom price.

FORGIVENESS. (v.7b)

Forgiveness – (*aphesis*) – The word denotes loosening someone from what binds them. It stems from a verb meaning to send away. When God deals with our sin, it is sent into the wilderness like the scapegoat seen in Leviticus. Forgiveness deals with both our sin (condition) and our sins (actions).

GRACE. (v.7c-8)

These riches of grace have been showered on us in profusion...God has generously poured out grace and “...***lavished upon us...***” meaning – continuous action of replenishing – we can never sin beyond God’s grace. Why would we want to try to exhaust His grace? Like Paul asked the church at Rome, ***“What should we say then? Should we continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?”*** (Romans 6:1-2)

KNOWLEDGE_. (v.9a)

The will of God is not mysterious, nor does any mystery surround it. The will of God in Christ was once hidden has now been revealed to us by Christ Himself and His Word (**cf. Hebrews 1:1-4**).

This knowledge is not only intellectual understanding but it is an experiential understanding – it is something we know is real, yet can't fully explain it. It is something we feel, yet we cannot fully express it. It is a fact of which we can never consume all its truth. It is Christ in us, the hope of glory!

PURPOSE_. (v.9b-10)

While we are here on earth, our purpose is to act in a manner worthy of our call as His adopted, predestined, chosen sons and daughters. All aspects of our lives are immersed in the truth so that the truth is who we are – these aspects are immersed in the light so that the light is who we are...it is how we are identified...it is our new purpose...it is our only purpose.

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