

Ephesians 1: 1 - 6

God's big purposes

1. A letter about God's big purposes v1-2

Written by Paul, an apostle

Revealing God's purposes to...

God's Holy people

God's plan seen in Chp 1-3 -

1:10 God's cosmic plan to unite all things under Jesus by reconciling us to God and each other through Jesus death and resurrection Chp 3 proclaimed to all, including the heavenly realms! Chp 4-6 help us see how to live out that plan!

2. As God's people, we lack nothing 1:3

We are to be a praising people no matter our circumstances for we lack nothing - every spiritual blessing ours

Heavenly realms = Spiritual sphere, dimension of life

Blessings Pauls speak of are the eternal treasures of personal reconciliation with God- they BELONG TO ALL Christians

Spiritual blessings are seen in v3-14 (Chosen, Adopted, reconciled, sealed, inheritance)

Those in Christ Jesus receive them by being united to Him

3. As God's people, we are chosen v4

Chosen before the creation of the world

none are worthy to be chosen

Knowing we are Chosen should be an encouragement to us

- humbles us
- Brings us assurance

Chosen to be holy and blameless in love

Chosen not so we can carry on living how we want but to be holy, like Jesus!

Blameless in love - loving all including enemies like Jesus

- Sharing the good news of Jesus

4. As God's people, you are adopted v5-6

Predestined to be adopted to sonship

We can now enjoy the privileges of Sonship and all that brings

We gain a new world-wide eternal family of brothers and sisters

We look forward to an eternal inheritance - that is ours as Sons! (hence why Paul calls men and women, sons!)

Knowing your purpose who you are - brings transformation and praise!