

Be Strong In the Lord – Episode 16 – Sept 2024, Dave Weber

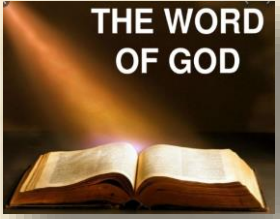
Ephesians Chapter 2:16-22
Promises Fulfilled in Christ

Book of Joshua

God's people taking physical possession of the Land that God promised them

Book of Ephesians

God's people taking spiritual possession of the spiritual ground God has promised us as **our inheritance in Christ** – we need to **actively possess it**



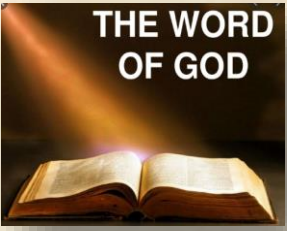
Ephesians: Review

Chapter 1 emphasizes our **possessions** in Christ

Chapter 2 emphasizes our **position** in Christ

**Our position determines our possessions
and authority**

Ephesians Chapter 1 Topics – Also in Chapter 2



- Foreknowledge God's eternal knowledge & wisdom
- Election God's Divine choosing of us
- Predestination God's plan for us from eternity
- Redemption God's price & payment to redeem us
- Adoption God's legally adopting us
- Blessings God's riches for us in Christ
- The will of God God's will for mankind & us in particular
- Mysteries (12) God's mysteries being revealed
- Dispensations God's sequence of events & time frames
- Forgiveness God's great love, the steep price, His character
- Inheritance God's inheritance to us thru Jesus' death & Will
- Sealing God's sealing us with the indwelling Holy Spirit

Ephesians 1:10 *“That in the dispensation of the fullness of times, He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both where are in heaven and which are on earth, even in Him.”*

- ***Oikonomia*** (Greek): *dispensation, administration of a household; stewardship; economy (ordered condition of things).*
- ***Kairos***: *particular times, decisive segments of time*

REVIEW: **Dispensations**

Christ Himself was a dispensationalist

Luke 4, Jesus quoted **Isaiah 61:1-2** and said He was fulfilling those works of the Messiah:

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek, He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord..."

BUT He did NOT include the last part of that prophecy "**and the Day of Vengeance of our God, ...**" - that is yet to happen

REVIEW: Dispensations **Scripture** **End**

Innocence

Gen 1:28

Fall of Man

Conscience: moral responsibility

Gen 3:7

The Great Flood

Human Government

Gen 8:15

Tower of Babel

Promise

Gen 12:11

Bondage in Egypt

Law -- Moses

Exodus 19:1

Babylon Captivity

Church – Pentecost to Rapture

Acts 2:1

Rapture of the Church

Kingdom (Christ's reign: Millennium)

Rev 20

Satan's rebellion

What comes next in world history? Timing

Rapture of Christians to heaven
Heaven Marriage, Believer's Rewards

It can happen at any time
After the Rapture

Gods' Wrath & Israel's Repentance
Israel's Spiritual Restoration



7-year Tribulation period
7-year Tribulation period

Second Coming of Christ

Jesus' promised return

Sheep & Goats Judgement
Marriage Supper of the Lamb

living people: who hurt or helped Israel in the Tribulation?
Restored Israel=Bridegroom's Friends

(Christ & Church Wedding Reception)

Christ's 1000-year reign on earth

As soon as He returns

Satan loosed, wars; judged forever
White Throne Judgement: All unbelievers judged

At end of the 1000 years
After His 1,000-year reign

Eternity, new heaven & earth

After Judging All Unbelievers

We live in exciting times !

We look for the blessed appearing of our Lord & Savior, Jesus, to meet Him in the air.

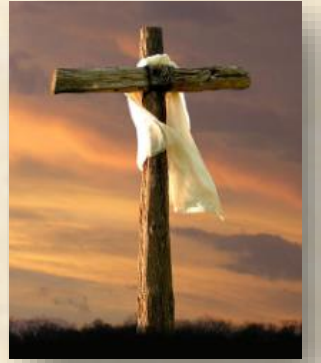


I Thes 4:16-18:For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up (rapturo) together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Wherefore, comfort one another with these words.”

Ephesians 2:16



*“And that He might reconcile both unto God in **one body** by the cross, having slain the enmity (hostility) thereby.”*

The Law created a wall of separation **between:**

Jews under Promise, under the Law

Gentiles without the Law of God

In Christ, we are **grafted into** the Covenant w/Abraham

In Christ, Jews & Gentiles are under **the law of Grace**

Salvation **by grace alone**
 through faith alone
 in Christ alone

Mercy: we don't get what we deserve (**justice ending in wrath**)

Grace: we get what we don't deserve (**salvation, relationship**)

The mystery hidden in the Old Testament is revealed in Ephesians:

- That believing Jews & Gentiles are in one body “in Christ”
 - We are a part of Him
 - Christ **removed** the Law that caused the
 - The **wall** of separation
 - The **hostility** between Jew and Gentile

Ephesians 2:17-18



“And came and preached peace to you who were afar off, and to them that were near,

For through Him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.”

Jews had the Covenant & the Law
As Gentiles, we were far off from God:



- **Without Christ**
- **Aliens from the commonwealth of Israel**
- **Strangers to God's covenants of promise**
- **Having no hope**
- **And without God in the world**

Ephesians 2:13

***“But now, in Christ Jesus
you who sometimes were
far off are made near by
the blood of Christ.”***



Jesus died & rose again to redeem fallen Man:

Peace with God comes from
Jesus taking our punishment

Peace with God by being justified:
“just as if I’d not sinned”

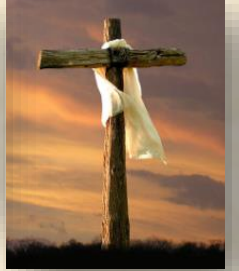
*“Therefore, being justified by **faith**, we have
peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ”*

Rom 5:1

*“And the **peace** of God that passes all
understanding shall **keep** your hearts and minds
through Christ Jesus” **Phil 4:7***



Peace through the Cross to the Jew & Gentile



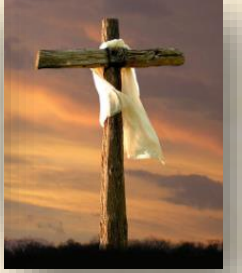
Access by one Spirit to Father God

- Access had been only once a year, by the high priest
- In Christ, we now have **access any time**, through prayer, to commune **directly with God**, addressing Him as Father!
- **access to** God, blessings, to heaven, fellow saints, eternity, inheritance, glorification

Under the Law of Grace:

We are not **to live** as we please, **but as He pleases**

Ephesians 2:19



“Now therefore you are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;”

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“Now therefore you are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;”

- **Jews & Gentiles have the EQUAL rights and privileges, spiritually, when they are “in Christ”**
 - **Jews retain their national and ethnic promises of God to the Land, a King, a Throne with King David & Christ reigning**
- **We are fellow members of the body of Christ**



Ephesians 2:20

“And are built upon the foundation of the apostles, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone;”

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- The Church (body of Christ) foundation WAS built with the Apostles who saw Christ before & after the resurrection.
- The Church has since been built on that foundation. **Today**, we are **disciples** of Christ, **followers** of Christ.
- Christ is the Chief Cornerstone – whom the builders (Jewish leaders of His time) rejected.
- **On whom have do I build my faith?**





Ephesians 2:21

***“In whom all the building fitly
framed together grows unto a holy
temple in the Lord;”***

Ephesians 2:21



“In whom all the building fitly framed together grows unto a holy temple in the Lord;”

Am I born again and am I now being sanctified (fitly framed together), growing in Christ daily?

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

And whatsoever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks the God and the Father by Him.”

Sanctification: by Scripture, prayers, Christian fellowship, praise ... to be able to discern and choose between right and wrong.



Ephesians 2:22

***“In whom you also are built together
for a habitation of God through the
Spirit.”***

Ephesians 2:22



“In whom you also are built together for a habitation of God through the Spirit.”

God the Holy Spirit, indwells the believer

The Holy Spirit seals the believer's salvation

The Holy Spirit teaches the believer the Truth

The Holy Spirit empowers the believer to live holy

So...what does this say...

About me?

To me?

For me?



What about me?

Am I saved?

Will I go to heaven?

How can I know for sure?

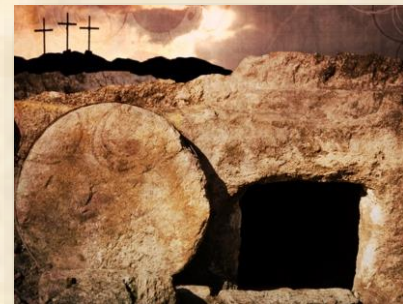
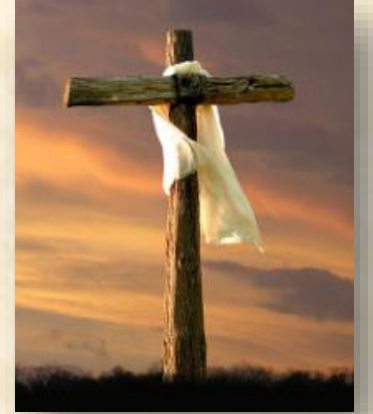
God's Solution for my sin

Rom 5:8 “For God commends His love toward us, in that **while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us**”

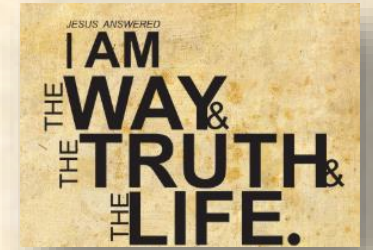
2 Cor 5:21 For He hath **made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin**; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him

Col 2:14 **Blotting out the handwriting of the ordinances** that were against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way **nailing it to the cross**

Jn 19:30 When **Jesus** therefore had received the vinegar, he **said, “It is finished”**; and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. (Greek: Tetelesti)



Our Response



- **Rom 10:9** That if you will **confess** with your mouth **the Lord Jesus**, and will **believe** in your heart that God hath raised him from the dead, you **shall be saved**.
- **1 John 1:9** **If we confess our sins**, he is faithful and just to **forgive** us our sins, and to **cleanse** us from all unrighteousness.

God's Promise for the Believer

1 Peter 1:3,4



Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again unto a **lively hope** by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.