

## **EPHESIANS 1:11-12 THE WAY WHICH GOD WORKS OUT HIS PLAN**

We are here face to face with high doctrine again. Paul is repeating the same words he used in vv 4-5. There he was giving us a general view of God's purpose and now he gives us a view of the eternal standpoint. This is the scheme that is applied to us. God is restoring the original harmony that had been broken. That is what we saw in Verse 10 as he unfolded God's great eternal purpose. Verse 11 brings in the details. Paul is simply astounded by these things that are according to the counsel of God's own will. God's way of restoring harmony and unity is to produce Christians. The text is for believers only. Christians have minds that are enlightened. It is only the ones who have the Holy Spirit who can understand these things.

### **1. THE INHERITANCE**

**1:11**

#### **A. THE BASIS**

Christ is the source for all blessings. To be a Christian means to have a new relationship to Christ. To be related to Christ means to get what He has with Him.

In Christ---vv 1, 3-4, 6-7, 10, Rom 6:3-5 1 Cor 6:17

The perfect illustration of Jew and Gentile Eph 3:12-13,19

Between Jew and Gentile there was a middle wall of partition.. The Jew was proud of his being the chosen nation. He despised other nations. They had the law and the dogs didn't.

The Greeks hated the Jews. They had the great philosophers, Plato Socrates, and Aristotle. They had their theories for life and the after life. The Greeks saw themselves as superior. They both built walls, curtains

What was it that brought Paul and the Ephesians together? Christ is the answer.

#### **B. INHERITANCE**

Because we are in Christ, we have obtained an inheritance.

We have obtained a stake in it. We are fellow heirs.

We are heirs of all blessings. We will be an inheritor.

Eklerothemen-- aorist passive indicative—already happened

Its just as certain as if it already happened.

1 Pet 1:3-4, 2 Pet 1:3-4, Eph 1:3, 1 Cor 3:22-23, Rom 8:17

Though if we were to be stripped of everything here, our inheritance is guaranteed.

We are promised peace, love, grace, wisdom, eternal life, victory,

Strength, guidance, power, mercy, forgiveness, righteousness, truth

Fellowship with God, spiritual discernment, heaven eternal riches, glory.

## **2. THE ENTRANCE**

How does anyone become a Christian?

### **A. PREDESTINATION**

Eph 1:4, Rom 8:29

Even though we were vile, disgusting, rebellious, useless and deserving of only death.

### **B. POWER OF GOD**

Works Energeo---energy

Phil 1:6, 2:13, Eph 2:9, Rom 8:28

God had a plan and even in Gen 3 first sin, He worked His plan.

Through the flood He saved a remnant. Later with Abraham the call was while he was in pagan surroundings. He turned him into a nation.

Then came the patriarchs and descendants the children of Israel. They were slaves and were delivered out of Egypt and went into Canaan.

Then were later taken to Babylon and then brought back. God worked all that out. Then He sent forth His Son. He works His plan through

His Son. If it were not for His working, none of us would be Christians. He quickens us, convicts us, regenerates us, and gives us His Spirit to dwell within us.

### **C. PREEMINENCE OF GOD**

Praise of His glory

The controlling element in all these things is always the glory of God.

Everything originates in God.

Man is redeemed for the purpose of restoring the divine image marred by sin. God desires creatures that will give Him glory by both proclaiming and displaying His glory. For that reason He redeems men.

## **3. THE HUMAN PERSPECTIVE**

**1:12**

### **A. WE**

First to hope were the first to believe in Him.

John 1:12

### **B. YOU**