

**Ephesians: Message 3 (Blessing the Father for our Trinity-Wrought Inheritance)**

Water of Life

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**REVIEW:**

**Author:** Paul (1:1; 3:1)

**Recipients:** The church at Ephesus

**Date:** Late within Paul's first Roman imprisonment (February 60–March 62): Probably 61.

**Defining *We* versus *You* in Ephesians**

You always is limited to Gentiles, we always includes Jews.

However, we can be exclusively Jews or can refer to the Church (which includes Jews)

Structure of Ephesians 1:3-14 (longest Greek sentence in the NT. I punctuate it as one sentence).

**(A) Gentile Bels ought to bless the Father who richly blessed Jewish believers first (1:3);**

**(B) by Father's praiseworthy work: preparing inheritance of Jewish believers first (1:4-6);**

**(C) by Christ's praiseworthy work: procuring inheritance of Jewish believers first (1:7-12);**

**(D) by Spirit's praiseworthy work: protecting inheritance of Gentile/Jewish bels (1:13f).**

Ephesians mentions the Trinity in one sentence in other passages, too: e.g., 2:18, 22; 3:14-16; 4:4-6.

**NEW EXPOSITION:**

**1:3 Gentile Bels ought to bless the Father who richly blessed Jewish believers first**

**1:4-6**

**(A) Gentile Bels ought to bless the Father who richly blessed Jewish believers first (1:3);**

**(B) by Father's praiseworthy work: preparing inheritance of Jewish believers first (1:4-6);**

What is the nature of the election of **US** discussed in Ephesians 1:4?

When did it occur? Before the foundation of the world = before the earth \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

What is the time frame for people "to be holy and blameless before Him in love"?

What is the result of this election? Predestination to placement as sons (*huio + thesia*)

This is a term for putting a son (even one's own biological son) in a will.

cf. 1:11: we have obtained an allotment, because of being placed as sons

cf. 1:14 who is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession

How should believers respond to what the Father did? *To the praise of the glory of His grace*

1:7-12:

**(A) Gentile Bel ought to bless the Father who richly blessed Jewish believers first (1:3);**

**(B) by Father's praiseworthy work: preparing inheritance of Jewish believers first (1:4-6);**

**(C) by Christ's praiseworthy work: procuring inheritance of Jewish believers first (1:7-12);**

He redeemed & forgave **OUR** transgressions through His blood according to the riches of His grace (1:7)

He has poured out grace upon **US** in willingly making known the mystery of His will (1:8-9a)

Chapter 3 details the mystery

His will is going to culminate in the dispensation which culminates the ages—in which everything will be placed under Christ's headship (1:10)

Besides everything being put under Christ's headship, **WE** received an allotment in Him, because [the Father] predestined **US** [to placement as sons—inheritance: cf. 1:5] in accordance w/ the purpose of Him who does all things according to His will (1:11)

The purpose of everything being placed under Christ's headship and us receiving an allotment is so that **WE** —the first to hope in Christ—would praise the Father's glory (1:12)

**CONCLUSION**