



### Scriptures for Part 3

- **Ephesians 1:3-6**  
3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him in love. 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the beloved.
- **Romans 9:10-21**  
10...Rebekah also, when she had conceived twins by one man, our Father Isaac; 11 For though the twins were not yet born and had not done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to His choice would stand, not because of works but because of Him who calls, 12 It was said to her, "the older will serve the younger." 13 Just as it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated." 14 What shall we say then? There is no injustice with God, is there? May it never be! 15 For He says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." 16 So then it does not depend on the man who wills or the man who runs, but on God who has mercy. 17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I raised you up, to demonstrate my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed throughout the whole earth." 18 So then He has mercy on whom He desires, and He hardens whom He desires. 19 You will say to me then, "Why does He still find fault? For who resists His will?" 20 On the contrary, who are you, O man, who answers back to God? The thing molded will not say to the molder, "Why did you make me like this," will it? 21 Or does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for common use?
- **Deuteronomy 7:6-8**  
6 "For you are a holy people to the Lord your God' the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth." 7 "The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any of the peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples," 8 but because the Lord loved you...
- **John 17:6,9**  
6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world...  
9 "I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given me"...

### Other Scriptures

- Duet. 7:6-8
- Ex. 9:16
- Numbers 6:22-27
- Isa. 64:6
- Mark 4:10-12
- John 1:13; 6:37-39,65; 10:26; 15:16; 17:6, 9
- Romans 8:29; 11:5-6
- Ephesians 2:1-3
- 2 Thess. 2:13

# Identity & Destiny

## Ephesians 1-3

### Part 3



### Main Points

- We are “holy and blameless before Him in love”. That is how God sees us in Jesus.
  - He took care of our sin through Jesus.
- He did not reveal Himself to everyone. He didn’t even try. Ex. He spoke in parables.
- Jesus understood His mission of dying would not save everyone, though it was sufficient for the whole world.
- God is NOT unfair or unjust. He chooses according to His purposes, not inherent goodness.
  - He chose the Jewish nation out of all the nations of the world, not because they were better than the other nations. They were a stiff-necked nation.
  - He chose the younger twin, Jacob over Esau, the elder twin—not because of their doings.
  - He chose wretched Pharaoh to demonstrate His miracles through, though hardening his heart. We are all wretched outside of Jesus.
  - The potter has the sovereign right over the clay. Who are we to argue with God?
  - A remnant of Jews and Gentiles are chosen.
  - We are chosen to be holy and blameless and He sees us that way through Messiah.
- Knowing *who* you are will strengthen your spirit and your faith.
  - You were foreknown and fore-loved by God.
  - You are chosen before creation of the world.
  - You are purchased by the blood of Christ
  - You are adopted by God into His family.
  - You are seen by God through Jesus’ perfection.

### Discussion Questions

1. Does this teaching challenge earlier held beliefs about predestination and God’s choices?
2. Does knowing that God loved YOU before the world was formed, change how you view yourself? What are some thinking patterns that could be reprogrammed now that you know this?
3. Compose a prayer of love back to your Father God right now for His eternal love for you!
4. Jot down some thoughts about how your value to God could change your actions from now on.