



### Scripture

- **Ephesians 1:3-5, 12-13, & 17-18**

<sup>3</sup>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, <sup>4</sup>just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love <sup>5</sup>He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,

<sup>12</sup>to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory. <sup>13</sup>In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,

<sup>17</sup>that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. <sup>18</sup>*I pray that* the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

- **Ephesians 3:6-7**

<sup>6</sup>*to be specific*, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel, <sup>7</sup>of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which was given to me according to the working of His power.

### Other Scriptures

- Gen. 22:18
- Acts 3:25 & Ch. 10
- Eph. 2: 14-16
- Mt. . 11:25; 15:24
- Eph. 2:15
- Ezek.1:28
- Rev. 4:3; 10:1
- John 14 and 16

# Identity & Destiny

## Ephesians 1-3

### Part 7



### Main Points

- One of the most important sections of the New Testament.
  - Our identity in Jesus was given before we were born and the creation of the world.
  - We are invited to adoption by Father God, along with our Jewish brethren.
    - Revealed to Abraham through the blessing for the nations of the whole earth.
    - Reiterated through Peter's vision and Cornelius's salvation.
    - Reconciled Gentiles and Jews as one in Messiah.
    - Revealed in Ephesians as the mystery.
- Paul's prayer for us
  - To know God
    - Do you know God? ( Intimate experience with God)
    - Do you just know about God? (book knowledge)
  - To understand the hope of our calling—our destiny and future.
  - To understand the riches of God's glory inside us
    - Wisdom-Godly information orchestrated by the Holy Spirit toward application to given situations
    - Revelation—a mystery revealed by the Holy Spirit through divine intuition
  - The hope of our calling
    - The treasure reserved in heaven
    - The mansions prepared for us by Jesus
    - Hope—the assurance of a sure destiny.

### Discussion Questions

1. Consider the privileged position of being brought in to the family of God out of all the nations of the world. Does this encourage you in your understanding of His great love for you? Do you find in it motivation toward obedience and greater desire to know and serve Him? Write a few sentences that show your grasp of this understanding.
  
2. How intimately do you experience God? How does that look in your life?
  
3. In what ways can you turn your daily experiences into communion with your Father? How can humility help you depend more on the wisdom and revelation of Him?