## Identity & Destiny Ephesians 1-3



Part 4

### **Scripture**

### **Ephesians 1:5-13**

<sup>5</sup> He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace <sup>8</sup> which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him <sup>10</sup> with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him <sup>11</sup> also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, 12 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,

### Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; <sup>9</sup> not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

## Ephesians 2:1-5

1And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. <sup>3</sup> Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. <sup>4</sup>But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

### **Other Scriptures**

- Eph.1:3-5, 18; 2:3-5, 8-9
- Acts 13:48
- 2 Tim. 2:10
- John 6:44; 10:26; 15:16, 19; 17:6-9
- Duet. 7:6-8
- Romans 8:29; 9:10-22; 11:5-6
- 2 Thess. 2:13; 3:2
- Rev. 1:5-6; 19:9
- Phil. 2:11

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Part 4



### **Main Points**

- God has called us to be "priests".
  - To draw close to God
  - o To offer up our lives to God
  - o To minister to the world for God.
- All things are from Him, through Him, and to Him (Rom. 11:36)
- Knowing your identity—a called out, loved one of God the Father—reveals your destiny.
- Receive the encouragement that comes from this truth!

## **Discussion Questions**

- 1. What was your life like before you knew God's grace? Have you seen changes in your thinking, your lifestyle, and your emotions? List some of the ways being a child of wrath felt to you. Now compare life in Christ. Praise God for His mercy and life changing grace to you.
- 2. In what ways does this teaching energize you to reach out and declare your faith?

3. Go through the other Scriptures Rabbi shared. What pronouns are used? What are some works that belong to God and what are some that depend on you? What does this teach you about your calling?