

RAGS TO RICHES

Our Riches in Christ : Study in Ephesians, Part 1b

Ephesians 1:7

January 29, 2012

Sermon Notes

Chapters 1-3 teach us of our **inheritance** by faith in Christ.
Chapters 4-6 teach us of our **investment** in Christ's kingdom via works.

- I. (REVIEW) "In Him we have redemption through His blood." The meaning of "redemption" (apolutrosin: to let one go "free" having received the price) can be told in three Greek words.
 - A. (REVIEW) Agorazo: to buy **in** the slave market. (cf. I Cor. 6:20; 7:23, 30; II Pet. 2:1, Rev. 5:9. Rom. 6:18-19)
 - B. (REVIEW) Exagorazo: to buy **out of** the slave market, to buy off, to buy for one's self. (Gal. 3:13; 4:5)
 - C. Lutraho: to **liberate** by payment of ransom. (Titus 2:14. Rom. 8:1; Titus 2:11-13; II Cor. 7:10; Rom. 6:23a)
- II. "...the forgiveness of sins". (1:7b)
 - A. "Aphesis" which means, "a release, the letting them (sins) go as if they **had not** been committed, thus, forgiveness (aphesis), means a remission of their penalty. To **cancel** a debt." (cf. Is. 61:1; Matt. 18:27ff)
- III. "...in accordance with the riches of God's grace..." (cf. Eph. 2:4, 7; 3:8)
 - A. **According** to His riches, not "**out of**" His riches. (cf. Is. 55:1)
 - B. Through Christ we are **completely**, not **partially**, reconciled to God. (cf. Heb. 10:19)
 - C. We have no right to be lacking in assurance of salvation; it is our "**inheritance**". (I Pet. 1:3-4)
- IV. "...that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding." (Lavished: from the Greek word "perisseuo").
 - A. Definition of "lavished": "to exceed a fixed number or measure, to be **over and above** a certain number or measure, to exist or be at hand in abundance". "to exist in superfluity, to super-abound" (Rom. 5:20b)
 - B. Our word "wisdom" comes from the Greek word "sophia": it refers to the **supreme intelligence** such as belongs to God. God's choice to lavish His grace upon is not the result of Him having made a promise to Himself one day when he was feeling "manic". Rather it is a result of deep contemplation that has been drawn up from divine counsel with Himself.



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