I.D.

"Ephesians – A Journey of Identification" "I Am Redeemed"

"He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding." Ephesians 1:7-8 NLT

A. Paul writes a letter to the **Ephesians**...

"This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus." Vs ${\bf I}$

- 1. Paul writes a letter to God's holy people.
- "I am writing to God's holy people in Ephesus," Vs 1
- 2. Paul writes a letter to God's faithful followers. "who are faithful followers of Christ Jesus." Vs 1
- 3. Paul writes a letter to remind them of God's <u>blessings</u>. "All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing..." Vs 3
- 4. Paul writes a letter to remind them of God's provision.

 "every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ." Vs 3

B. Paul writes a letter of <u>praise</u> for all God has offered...

1. He loved us.

"Even before he made the world, God loved us..." Vs 4

2. He chose us.

"Even before he made the world, God... chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes." Vs 4

3. He <u>adopted</u> us.

"God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure." Vs 5 4. He purchased us.

"He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins." Vs 7

C. Paul writes a letter identifying our blessings...

1. He showered us with kindness and grace.

"He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding." Vs 8

2. He revealed to us His will.

"God has now revealed to us his mysterious will regarding Christ—which is to fulfill his own good plan." Vs 9

3. He granted us an inheritance.

"Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan." Vs 11

4. He identified us as His own.

"And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago." Vs 13b

D. My identity in Christ gives me a rich and full life...

- 1. I am loved by God!
- 2. I am chosen by God!
- 3. I am adopted by God!
- 4. I have been purchased by God!
- 5. I have been showered by His kindness and grace!
- 6. I have the privilege of knowing His will!
- 7. I have been granted an inheritance!
- 8. I have been identified as His own!

"The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him."

Vs 14

My prayer:

Heavenly Father, I thank You for your love! I thank You that I am chosen by You. I thank You that I am adopted into Your family. I thank You that I have been purchased by Your blood. I thank You for showering me with Your kindness and grace. I thank you for revealing Your will to me. I thank You for promising me an inheritance. I thank You that I am Yours.

I ask that You would give me spiritual wisdom and insight that I might grow in the knowledge of who You are. Let my heart be flooded with Your light that I might have the confident hope You have given me. Let me remember the rich and glorious inheritance You have reserved for me. Help me to know the incredible greatness of Your power...the resurrection power!

Lord, You are above any ruler or authority in our world. You are greater than politics or all the influencers of our world. Nothing will come to me except through Your Hand as You have placed all authority under Jesus Christ.

Thank you Lord for making the church the answer to the needs of our world as You are the Head and we are Your body. Help me to find my place in this body that I might always be aware of Your work through me! "I am redeemed!"

In Jesus Name, Amen.

May 21, 2017 "I Am Alive" *Ephesians 2:1-22*May 28, 2017 "I Am a Servant" *Ephesians 3:1-21*June 4, 2017 "I Am United" *Ephesians 4:1-16*June 11, 2017 "I Am Filled" *Ephesians 4:17-5:20*June 18, 2017 "I Am Related" *Ephesians 5:21-6:9*June 25, 2017 "I Am a Warrior" *Ephesians 6:10-24*