

Sunday School Lesson – Tuesday, November 1st , through Sunday, November 6, 2022
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Fall Quarter's Theme: "GOD'S Exceptional Choice!"

[Exceptional, adj., unusual, uncommon, extraordinary—Choice... Doctrinal terms: *Elect; Predestination, Foreordained* (not 'whatever will be will be' ... not 'my circumstances were all pre-determined']. As we study the Lessons of this quarter, please remember, **The BIBLE teaches** us that "we are '**FREE**' to make '**CHOICE**' that *affects* **GOD!** **GOD interacts** with us as we '**FREELY**' make our '**CHOICES.**' **The BIBLE teaches** that only part of what happens has been Eternally **Predetermined!**

Lessons Theme...

Unit 3, "We Are GOD'S Artwork" ... November—4 Lessons...

Artwork, image, illustration, photograph... Ephesians 2: 10,

"For we are **HIS workmanship**, created in **CHRIST JESUS** unto good works, which **GOD** hath ordained that we should walk in them."

Workmanship (*poiema*) pointing out that 'the believer' experiences *two creations*: a *natural birth* and a *spiritual birth*—**GOD** created us in **CHRIST JESUS**... that is,

GOD '*quickens our spirit*' and makes us *alive*—Ephesians 2: 1

Born-again *spiritually*—John 3: 3, 5-6

GOD places **HIS Divine Nature** in our heart—2 Peter 1: 14

GOD actually makes a *new creation* of us—2 Corinthians 5: 17

I'm a *new man*—Ephesians 4: 24

I'm *renewed* by **GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT**—Titus 3: 5

Every believer (we are) **GOD'S** work of Art, **GOD'S Masterpiece**... we don't create beauty... we just show **GOD'S Work**, **HIS Life** and **HIS Living** through us.

Evidence of Salvation.

Outline of the Book of Ephesians for Lessons this month:

- I. **GOD'S Call**—It's a Privilege, 1: 1, 2
- II. **GOD'S Eternal Purpose** for The **CHRISTian** Believer...
 - a. **GOD'S Blessing**, 1: 3-14
 - b. **GOD'S KNOW**ledge, 1: 15-18
 - c. **GOD'S Power**: demonstrated in **CHRIST'S Exaltation**, 1: 19-23
- III. The **CHRISTian** Believer' Life.
 - a. Before Salvation: without **CHRIST**, 2: 1-3
 - b. After Salvation: **GOD'S Mercy** at work, 2: 4-7
 - c. During Salvation: **GOD'S GRACE**—Saving (Sanctification) 2: 8-10
 - d. **CHRIST** in the Believer' Life (How can we forget being '*reconciled* and **HIS peace?**'), 2: 11-18
 - e. Who am I? —**The Church**, 6 pictures, 2: 19-22
- IV. The **CHRISTian** Believer' Warfare.
 - a. The **CHRISTian** Solider Armor, 6: 10-20
 - b. The **CHRISTian** Soldier Example of **FAITH**fulness, 6: 21-24

- I. **GOD'S Call**—It's a *Privilege* [advantage, benefit, authorization] 1: 1, 2
 -- "an apostle of **JESUS CHRIST** by The Will of GOD: **GOD Choice**; not Paul's choice or another's. It's a *privilege* (right) to *serve CHRIST JESUS—The Majestic LORD of All*.
 -- 'Apostle': one sent forth on a very special *Mission—GOD'S Messenger*—to proclaim **GOD'S Salvation** through **JESUS CHRIST** to the world (John 3: 16)
 -- *Possessed* by **JESUS CHRIST!**
 -- *Called* to be "saints" and "FAITHful." Saint (*hagioi*), set apart, consecrated, sacred, holy. FAITHful (*pistoi*) identifies one who has placed their *FAITH* in **The LORD JESUS CHRIST**. They look to **The LORD JESUS CHRIST**. They place their *confidence* in **The LORD JESUS CHRIST** and **HIS WORD(S)**. They *entrust* their Salvation into **The Hands of The LORD JESUS CHRIST**. They *commit* their Life to **The LORD JESUS CHRIST**.
 -- "...called by **GRACE** and *Peace*." **GRACE** is All the *Favors* and *Gifts* of **GOD**; All the *Kindness* and *LOVE* that **GOD** freely gives; *unmerited! Gift!* It's the only way to be Saved! **AND, Peace** follows! [without **GRACE**, there is no *Peace*. No *Peace*, no **GRACE!**]

- II. **GOD'S Eternal Purpose** for The **CHRISTian** Believer—Salvation (*soteria*) liberation from captivity. *Freed* to willingly serve **The LORD!**

- Salvation involves **GOD'S** bestowed *Favor*, v. 3

Praise— "Blessed be **The GOD** and **FATHER** of our **LORD JESUS CHRIST**..."

Place— "...with all *spiritual* blessings (not material) on earth and in Heaven..."

Prerequisite— "...in **CHRIST**." [without **CHRIST**, there is no Salvation!]

- Salvation involves '*foreordaining*,' determining, decreed *purpose* in advance that we be saved, *IF We Choose Too*.

-The **PERSON**— "...**HE** hath chosen us..." **GOD** decided Salvation matters.

-The *Period*— "...before the foundation of the world..." Before Genesis 1: 1.

-The *Purpose*— 1. "...that we be holy..." (remission of *sins*). "...without blame before **HIM** in **LOVE**." 2. Adopted, placed in the family as an adult son/daughter.

3. Accepted, *imputed* (made right, declared right).

-The *Prompting*— "...according to the good pleasure of **GOD'S Will**..." [**GOD** does what *pleases HIM!*] Notice, verse 6, "...**PRAISE** of the *Glory* of **GOD—GRACE**. Verse 12,

"...**PRAISE** of the *Glory* of **HIS** *Glory*, for those who trust in **CHRIST—GOD'S** Children.

Verse 14, "...the earnest pf our inheritance (**The HOLY SPIRIT of GOD**) unto the *PRAISE* of **HIS** *Glory*."

- Salvation involves *Forgiveness* (of *sin*) ...

-V. 7, "In **WHOM** we have redemption..." [No *forgiveness* apart from redemption]

- "...through **HIS** blood..." [What can wash away my *sin*? *NO*thing but The Blood of **JESUS!**]

- "...according to the riches of **HIS GRACE**." [*unmerited*. We do not have enough goodness]

- V. 8, "...**HE** hath abound toward us in all **WISDOM**..."

- [There's no Hope without **GOD' GRACE**. No Salvation without our *FAITH*—Oooh, **The WISDOM of GOD!**"]

- Salvation involves our *Future* (more about *Future* than present!

GOD makes known to the saved things the *unsaved* don't know...

1. *Prompting*, "...according to **HIS** good pleasure..." [Note vs. 5, 9— "according to the good pleasure of **HIS Will** " ... "according to **HIS** good pleasure which **HE** had *purposed* in **HIMSELF**."

It pleased **GOD** to “reveal **HIS Will!**”]

2. Phase, “...the mystery of **HIS Will...**” **The TRUTH is, GOD Willed** that I (we) be **saved.**

-- **Salvation** involves The Ruling Future.

- V. 9, “...the dispensation of the fulness of times...” That is, **GOD WHO** is ruling, will Rule The Future.

-The Restoration in The Future. V. 10, “...**HE** might gather together in one all things in **CHRIST...**”

-- **Salvation** involves Fortune. Vss. 11, 12... “...we have obtained an ‘inheritance’... This says we do not get it right away. It comes in the Future... **GOD** wrote **The Will**. The ‘inheritance’ will show that **GOD’S** children honor **HIM!**

-- **Salvation** is forever (vss. 13, 14) [Once **saved**, always **saved**—Eternal Security—Sealed, marked, branded—Showing **OWNERSHIP** by The **HOLY SPIRIT.**]

All because of **GOD’S GRACE** not our works!!!