

IDENTIFICATION TRUTHS

Lesson 36: Positions and Possessions of the Believer

#34 Possessing Every Spiritual Blessing: Ephesians 1:3-5

READ: the verse and answer the questions

1. Where is the place that's good enough for The Son to be?

There is no place good enough for the Son but heaven.
The Father is the living fount of the glory and the Son is the living stream.

2. Where is the place God displays most of His glory?

Heaven is the place God displays most of His glory.
The great work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross was to bring us to the Father: His death and His Blood, His ascension and sitting at the Father's right hand, all mean one thing - our being brought nigh to dwell in the Father's presence.

3. Why are these blessings of a spiritual character?

Blessings are spiritual in character because they are of God.

Paul does not ask a thing of the saints in Ephesians 1–3 but just to listen while he proclaims that wondrous series of great and eternal facts concerning them; and not until he has completed this catalogue of heavenly realities about them does he ask them to do anything at all!

And when he does open his plea for their high walk as saints, everything is based upon the revelation before given of the truths of their high character and destiny as saints: *I therefore ... beseech you that you walk worthy of the high calling to which you are called (Eph. 4:1).*

Let us cease laying down to the saints long lists of “conditions” for entering into the blessed life of the Lord Jesus; and instead, as the primal preparation for leading

them into the experience of this life, show them what their position, possessions, and privileges in Christ already are!

Thus we shall truly work with the Holy Spirit; and thus shall we have more, and much more abiding fruit of our labors of love among the people of God.

4. What makes these the highest blessings possible?

Blessing of believers according to the purpose of God, (therefore highest blessing) v-3

He Himself has been made to us all these things. His own fullness is their only measure. With deep reverence we therefore say that the Father could not bless us more than He has done. He has given us His Beloved Son, and in this unspeakable Gift has given us all that He Himself is.

5. Where is the source of all blessing found?

Source of the blessings found in the heart of God.

The Father is the living fount of the glory and the Son is the living stream.

The Lord Jesus brings us into the right place and position, (into His Heart) in which the Father can work the likeness of His Beloved Son in us.

6. What must a believer have in order to be before Him and receive and appreciate what God is doing?

To be before Him without having His nature is impossible.

Nothing short of equality of nature is set forth in the identical possession of the riches of glory. Therefore to have Christ is to have everything in Him. Rich indeed is the Scripture which tells us:

“Christ Jesus ... is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption” (I Cor. 1:30).

7. When did these blessings have their beginning?

The blessings had their beginning before foundation of world in the heart of the Father.

Psalm 91:1 *He that dwells in the secret place of the most High*

John 1:18 *which is in the bosom of the Father,*

#37 Lesson 36 The Identification Truths- Mike Doyle

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Psalms 139:16 (KJV) Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unformed; and in thy book all *my members* were written, *which* in continuance were fashioned, when *as yet there was* none of them. Psalm 33:9 *For he spoke, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.*

Eccl. 3:15 *That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been;*

8. What is the subject of verse 4?

Nature is the subject of verse 4. The believer, in order to receive and appreciate what God is doing, has to share the nature of Christ.

Let us look at the difference between Israel entering the land, and the man in Christ. Everything depended on their act. They must go in and possess the land. True, God brought them in 'but they had to act in order to possess, and those who went in without faith did not remain possessors.

Now the believer is united to the Lord Jesus, and is in full title and ownership of the heavenly places before he enjoys any of it.

- True, as he accepts in faith the portion which grace has given him, the greater is his sense of possession and consequently of his enjoyment.
- In the one case the act was necessary in order to obtain possession;
- in the other, there was as much title before enjoying possession, as there was consequent on possession.
- If I only possess heaven in proportion to my act of faith as in the case with Israel respecting Canaan, I have no right of possession
- but as I secure it; my sense of owning the land is only as I set foot on it.
- Hence I am necessarily anxious as to my progress; my possession depends on it;

- whereas with a believer now, he has full title before he lays hold of any of it, and every apprehension of his portion only stimulates him the more to advance, and to be in association with Him who is there. It is the vastness of the blessing which he has in association with the Lord Jesus, which makes him long to apprehend

9. What is the subject of verse 5?

Relationship is the subject of verse 5.

It is our present privilege and responsibility to rest in Him where He is, because that is where we are positioned. Abide above!

10. What does using the description of Father to Son tell us about God?

The relationship of Father to Son is the clearest way to describe the intimacy of the relationship between the 1st. Person and the 2nd. Person of the Trinity.

“Always begin with your position, where you are; and then think of your condition, what you are.” -R.P.

11. We have been predestined to what?

Not He in ours, but we in His! And with what purpose? That the Father may have us, to develop in us that which is well-pleasing in His sight.

Let no one think that the entrance into the Holiest is the end; it is but the beginning of the growing Christian life. It brings us into the right place and position, in which the Father can work the likeness of His Beloved Son in us.

12. How many of the 33 positions and possessions we've looked at have had an impression on you?

13. List the top 2

