

Ephesians: From Death to Life
Made for Praise (Part 2)
Ephesians 1:3-14

The concept of inheritance is as old as humanity. We cannot take our material possessions with us when we die, so the natural tendency is for us to plan to distribute our worldly possessions to our children or grandchildren (whichever ones we like better) when we die. We leave a “last will and testament” so that the people that are left know how to divide the inheritance. Even in its complex lawyer language, wills help provide clarity in times of grief and sorrow.

We praise the Triune God because we were redeemed by the Son.

1. Our inheritance includes redemption.
2. Our redemption includes forgiveness.
3. Our forgiveness includes wisdom.
4. Our wisdom includes revelation.

Throughout the centuries of the Old Testament, there were markers and symbols that pointed to the mystery of God’s will. Even the prophets who preached the grace of God searched carefully for a deeper understanding of the redemption and salvation that God was going to offer through Christ. We praise the Triune God because the mystery of the gospel has been explained to us through the redemption of the Son. It is a salvation that was determined before the foundations of the earth; it is a salvation that is realized when we place our trust in the redemptive work of Christ and His cross.

Reflection

Take some time to read slowly through Ephesians 1:3-14. Highlight the phrases that make you think more deeply about what God has done for you. Take some time to prayerfully praise Him for His saving grace and saving work. Think about how you would explain the idea of redemption to a non-believer. Create your explanation using your own redemptive story. Include how you came to know you needed redemption, what you believed about how that redemption was made possible, and finally the circumstances under which you received that redemption for yourself. Take some time to thank God for the centrality of Christ in world history and for the centrality of Christ in your personal life.