

“The Blessing of Our Guarantee”

Ephesians 1:13-14

Introduction

Ephesians 1:3-14 is a lengthy declaration of praise to God. It is one of the great texts in all of the Word of God and highlights the work of the Father, Son and Spirit.

This declaration of praise gives us numerous reasons to praise God and bless Him. Paul calls them *every spiritual blessing*. Those blessings include election, adoption, grace, and inheritance. The final blessing for our consideration is the blessing of God’s guarantee. The blessings God has given us are remarkable, personal, eternal, and guaranteed. It is a guarantee designed to match the extraordinary nature of the blessings.

I. The Recipients of the Guarantee (1:13a)

In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, in whom also, having believed

A. The Ones Who Heard

See Romans 10:14; Colossians 1:6; 2 Timothy 4:17.

B. The Ones Who Believed

See Romans 10:14.

Faith in Ephesians: 1:15; 2:8; 3:12, 17; 4:5, 13;
6:16, 23.

Believe in Ephesians: 1:13, 19.

Faithful in Ephesians: 1:1; 6:21.

“down payment” or “earnest.” It was not only the guarantee that the full payment would be made, but was itself part of that full payment. One form of the word has come to be used for an engagement ring in modern Greek.

II. The Provision of the Guarantee (1:13b-14a)

You were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance

A. The Significance of the Seal

“The reference is to the ancient practice of identifying and reserving an item, in particular a scrolled letter, for its proper designee. We belong to God and he has marked us for himself.”

Walter Liefeld

Pictures of Our Security

- The Seal
- The Hand: John 10:27-30
- The Deposit: 2 Timothy 1:12

See also:

Matthew 27:66

John 3:33; 6:27

Romans 15:28

Revelation 5-6; 7:3-5, 8; 20:3

I Kings 21:6-16

Esther 8:8-12

Jeremiah 32:10

Daniel 6:17

B. The Person of the Seal

The Holy Spirit is Himself the seal.

C. The Result of the Seal

Guarantee translates a commercial word that meant

III. The Duration of the Guarantee (1:14)

Until the redemption of the purchased possession,

A. The Nature of this Redemption

This is the completion of all that God has promised us in salvation. It is the realization of the full extent of our inheritance, including a glorified body and a perfect nature.

B. The Time of this Redemption

The completion of our salvation takes place at the rapture of the church. 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

IV. The Purpose of the Guarantee

To the praise of His glory.

God’s glory is the purpose of all of these blessings.

See Ephesians 1:6, 12.

Conclusion

Life has few guarantees. Yet, our new life is full of guarantees based on the promises and character of God. The completion of our salvation is based on the character of our Savior.

Specific Actions to Take This Week

1. Pray for your unsaved friends and relatives with whom you can share the truths of this text.
2. Thank God for the specific blessings in your life.

3. Make a list of the blessings Paul mentions in Ephesians 1:4-14.

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