

Bless the Lord!

Ps.103:1-4

I. **Spiritual blessings Eph.1:3**

- a. Hyper-focus on the physical and temporal can bring:
 - i. Doubt, fear and distrust
- b. What is really "good" is from God and is:
 - i. Spiritual and eternal Jms.1:17

II. **Being "in Christ" Eph.1:4**

- a. Being in Christ is to be:
 - i. Chosen before time
 - ii. Given holiness and without blemish
 - iii. Granted family status V.5
- b. Our standing before God is based on Christ
 - i. When God sees us, He sees His Christ
 - 1. Regardless of our behavior

III. **Reliance on a superior savior 1:19-23**

- a. Our savior is resurrected to the highest position Phil.2:9-11
 - i. This eternally guarantees our position in Him

IV. **The quality of our salvation 2:1-7**

- a. We had nothing before Christ
 - i. No spiritual life
 - ii. No escape from evil
 - iii. Deserving only of God's wrath
- b. Now we are the royal family
 - i. On the throne with Christ
 - ii. Nothing to look forward to but grace

V. **Our community 2:11-18**

- a. Before Christ we were orphans
 - i. No hope, no promises, without God
- b. Now, we have come near
 - i. Part of God's family from all generations
 - ii. They are invested in us Heb. 12:1