

# BIBLE STUDY SERIES IN EPHESIANS

with Nathan Johnson

ELLERSLIE  
*daily thunder*

## LESSON 04

### YOU ARE BLESSED!

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing  
in the heavenly places in Christ, ...

**Ephesians 1:3**

#### BLESSINGS SECTION OVERVIEW

3 sections each ending with "to the praise of His glory":

1:3-6 – Father

1:7-12 – Son

1:13-14 – Spirit

#### BLESSING IN SCRIPTURE IS IMPORTANT

- First thing God did after He created humans (see Genesis 1:27-28)
- Abrahamic Blessing (see Jacob stealing Esau's birthright and blessing – Genesis 25 & 27)
- Balak, king of Moab, hiring Balaam to curse the Israelites (see Numbers 22)
- Simeon blessing Jesus as a baby (see Luke 2:28)

#### THE FOUNDATION OF BLESSING – EPHESIANS 1:3

- Verse 3 gives the context/basis for the entire blessing section
- Must understand this verse to properly understand the blessings listed in 1:3-14
- There is ONE blessing, of which everything listed is merely aspects of

#### 3 BLESSED WORDS

- **Blessed** be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ [*an adjective*]
- Who has **blessed** us [*an verb*]
- With every spiritual **blessing** [*a noun*]

## 1. BLESSED BE THE GOD AND FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

- Adjective
- Greek: 2 words, eu (good) and logos (words) – good words being declared (eulogy/brag)
- often translated “to bless or praise”
- when used as an adjective in the NT: always refers to God (God is the only one who is blessed)
- God is the source of His own blessedness

## 2. WHO HAS BLESSED US

- Participle: acts like an adverb ... describes and gives content to the main verb
- No main verb in the Greek (it's assumed ... so we supply it – “has”)

## 3. WITH EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING

- Noun
- “spiritual” here is not about the content (the kind of blessing) but rather the source of blessing: God Himself
- the blessing God has blessed you with can't be earned – it only comes by and through Him
- “every spiritual blessing” – blessing is singular (there is only one blessing) ... thus the blessings listed in verses 4-14 are aspects or features of this one single blessing (Jesus!)

**2 Peter 1:3** – His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

**Hebrews 12:1-2** – Therefore since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

## STUDY FOR NEXT TIME

*In our next study, we will continue to examine verse three, specifically the location of the spiritual blessings—what Paul calls the “heavenly realms”—a phrase he uses throughout Ephesians. If you'd like to get a jump start on the study ...*

1. Read the entire book of Ephesians this week (preferably every day)
2. Saturate in Ephesians 1:3-14
3. What can you discover about the “heavenly realms” from the 5 passages where Paul uses the phrase in Ephesians?