**February 19, 2017 “We Have Redemption” Ephesians 1:6-10**

As we continue in our study of the Book of Ephesians, I want to remind you of the reason we are studying this book at this time.

First, there is a cacophony of voices out there in the so-called realm of Christianity, which are espousing tales of extraordinary exploits which we as Christians are to seek after if we are to ever achieve a fullness in Christ. Once we receive or find these hidden truths, then we will walk in a victory like none other. These mysteries are hidden in things called, “fractals” and quite honestly, I am waiting for those who espouse such things to soon promote psychotropic drugs to enhance this mysteries found in fractals.

Secondly, many Christians live defeated and depressing lives because they have either not been taught the great truths found in the Book of Ephesians or when they have been taught of these things, they revert back to a defeated lifestyle many times this is because they have not “fixed their eyes on Jesus the author and finisher of their faith” but rather have focused on themselves and their failures as Christians.

So, what have we learned so far in our study of Ephesians?

1. We are blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ
   1. Those blessings are ours as Christians
   2. Kept in the heavenly places in Christ
2. What are those blessings?
   1. Knowledge that before the foundation of the world
      1. God chose us out of all the people of the world to spend eternity with Him in eternal bliss
      2. God chose us to be holy… set apart for His glory
      3. God chose us to be blameless… the state in which every Christian finds themselves in Christ
      4. God chose us to be adopted into His family
3. How did He do this?
   1. Every blessing and every comfort and every joy for every Christian is found in the Beloved
      1. Who is the Beloved?
         1. Mark 1:11; Luke 3:22… this is my Beloved Son… in Him I am well pleased
4. In Him we have redemption
   1. Redemption? What is it?
      1. God Himself paid the for the sin which has violated His holiness
      2. It is… the deliverance by a payment of a price
   2. Redemption in Greek
      1. A-gor-rat-zo… meaning “market place”
      2. Apo-lu-tro-sis… price paid to set someone free
   3. Romans 6:16-17
      1. Every single person is a slave to sin
         1. In our hearts, we want to rebel against God and His authority in our lives
         2. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God

# Joseph Conrad “The belief in a supernatural source of evil is not necessary; men alone are quite capable of every wickedness.”

1. What is the price of sin?
   1. Hebrews 9:22… “without the shedding of blood this is no forgiveness of sin”
      1. What did Jesus do on the cross?
         1. He paid the price of sin to set the slave to sin free
   2. Clarify in legal terms
      1. Di-kai-o-sis… means to be “acquitted”… not guilty of the crime
         1. Sinner stands before God accused but is declared to be without sin
      2. A-phe-sis… to cancel a debt
         1. That which he could not pay was paid in full by another
      3. Hu-e-o-thes-i-a… to be adopted
         1. No longer a stranger to God but now has become a son
      4. Kata-lasso… reconciliation… used in divorce proceedings
         1. No longer enemies but friends
      5. Apo-lu-tro-sis… to purchase to set free
         1. Once a slave but now free
2. Note the whole package “in the Beloved”
   1. Vs 7… redemption
   2. Vs 7b… forgiveness
   3. Vs 7c… riches of His grace
   4. Vs 9… His kind intentions
   5. Vs 10… all things are summed up in the Beloved

Christ wants us to have every good thing. And the Father loves the Son. And since the Father loves the Son, the Father will grant to the Son of His love the things the Son desires. And the thing the Son desires is that we have every good thing.

1. Titus 2:11-15a
   1. Micah 7:18-19
      1. Note the progressions of God’s intentions towards us

Who is a God like You,

who pardons iniquity

And passes over the rebellious act of the remnant of His possession?

He does not retain His anger forever,

Because He delights in unchanging love.

He will again have compassion on us;

He will tread our iniquities under foot.

Yes, You will cast all their sins Into the depths of the sea.