Chosen In Him

Tony Mauck · Ephesians 1:3–14

INTRODUCTION

- God chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless.
- Not everybody receives the blessings and the benefits of his grace. And even those who are in him must be careful that they do not forfeit those benefits.
- See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God. Look, if you come short of it, you don't have it, and you don't possess it.

1 In Him We Find Sin's Solution

Romans 6:3–5; Colossians 2:12–13; Ephesians 1:13

- In him. We find sin's solution. Forgiveness and redemption are in him.
- How did we come into him? We were baptized into him.
- How can you say baptism isn't a part of the process? It most definitely is. We are buried with him into his death.
- Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with him through faith in the working of God.
- It wasn't about what we were doing. It's about what God was doing in cleansing us from our sins.
- For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have clothed yourselves with Christ.

2 In Him Is Life's Purpose

2 Corinthians 5:14–17; Philippians 4:8; 1 Corinthians 9:22

- Because we are in Him, the way we look at ourselves, the way we look at others, the way we think. All of that changes.
- Therefore, if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature. The old things passed away. Behold, new things have come.
- Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever's decent, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence, and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things.
- Those people are objects of God's love. They are souls that need saving.
- I become all things to all men that I might by all means save some.
- God chose a particular kind of people. Those who would choose his holiness, who would choose to pursue a life of blamelessness, who would listen to the message of truth and obey the gospel of their salvation.

3 In Him We Have Heaven's Aid

Hebrews 2:18; Romans 8:26

- The way of man is not in himself. It is not in man that walks to direct his own steps.
- Now that we are in Christ, God isn't just shoving us out the door saying, now get out there and make me proud. He's helping us.
- He comes to the aid of the tempted, Hebrews chapter 2 and verse 18. He is our high priest.
- We have members of the Godhead interceding for us.
- Our high priest Jesus pleads our case at God's throne. We have heaven's aid.

4 The Disciple's Hope In Him

2 Corinthians 13:5; Revelation 3:18–21

- Those in him must continually assess the status of our affections for him and for his will.
- That's why we need to examine ourselves to see whether or not we be in the faith.
- If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, with others who are doing the same. And the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.
- Be zealous, therefore, and repent. That's at the heart of all real change.
- Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come into him and will dine with him and he with me.
- We must stay focused on the unseen, upon heaven, and ultimately the Lord's return.

THE CHALLENGE

God is faithful. Are you? Have you taken the steps that we looked about under point number one in sin solution? Taken the steps? Have you been buried with him?

MY NOTES