

Ephesians 1:6

ACCEPTED IN THE BELOVED

- I. The wonder.
 - A. "Accepted" is to make graceful, charming, lovely, agreeable, highly favored (cf. Luke 1:28).
 - B. "In the Beloved."
 - 1. Every blessing the elect enjoy is always in and through the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - 2. This is a name God gave to Him, viz., Jesus is God's Beloved (John 3:17; Matt. 17:5; Luke 20:13).
 - 3. No term expresses so perfectly and so completely the relationship between God and Jesus as "Beloved."
 - C. Our acceptance in the Beloved expresses the measure the Father's love toward us.
 - 1. To know correctly God's love, then we must grasp the truth about this Person.
 - 2. And we know something of the Beloved's love for us.
 - D. Put this altogether to learn of the Father's relationship to you.
 - 1. You are loved by God even as He loved His Beloved Son (John 17:23b)!!
 - 2. That this is the relationship is made clear in that God gives us the same name in Col. 3:12 and II Thess. 2:13: "beloved."
- II. We have been chosen to be holy and to adoption and are accepted in the Beloved so we might praise the glory of God's grace.
 - A. Does our profession of the Christian faith reveal itself in our praising God's grace?
 - B. Salvation is a revelation of the glory of God: "the praise of His glory as it is manifested in and through His grace."
 - 1. "Glory" speaks of beauty, majesty, splendor, with the idea of greatness, mighty and eternity. Resplendent radiance.
 - 2. The gospel is the proclamation of the glory of God (II Cor. 4:6).
 - C. This teaches us how we should be thinking of our salvation: it fills us with wonder, praise, and amazement.
 - 1. The chief end of man is to glorify God, which makes the seriousness of sin to be that it does not give God the glory due.
 - 2. God's work of redemption reveals the riches of the glory of His wisdom (18) and grace.