

The Christian's Possessions (2)

Introduction

- A. The Christian is one who has been given priceless possessions.
- B. The Bible describes this wonderful relationship by the statement, "Blessed by God." All of us would treasure a gift from a king or our president. The Christian has been given gifts by God.
- C. All Christians have the same possessions* Many of us, however, do not know our possessions – and sad to say – many of us do not live in harmony with them.

I. The Truth Stated: The Christian Has Possessions.

But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, Who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption. I Cor. 1:30

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ. Eph. 1:3

According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue. II Peter 1:3

Observation: All these possessions are given to us in or through our relationship with Jesus Christ. They became ours when we received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. It is also important to see that Jesus Christ Himself has been made our "wisdom", "righteousness"
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II. The Truth Explained: The Christian Has the Following Possessions.

A. The Christian is Accepted, Eph. 1:6.

To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the Beloved.

Observation: Everyone needs the approval and acceptance of his relatives and friends. However, our greatest need is to be accepted by God. To all those who have believed on Jesus Christ acceptance by God is a Biblical affirmation and should be a daily experience.

B. The Christian is Forgiven, Col. 2:13*

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

Observation: Note that the Bible describes this possession in the past tense and as universal. The believer is already forgiven of all of his sins.

C. The Christian is Protected, Eph. 1:13,14.

In Whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your salvation} in Whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance unto the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory.

Observation: The presence and work of the Holy Spirit, described here as the "seal" is the divine stamp of genuineness and protection. The Holy Spirit has assumed the responsibility to care for the Christian.

D. The Christian is Justified, Romans 5:1.

Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Observation: The word "justified" signifies the imputation of complete righteousness. Jesus Christ, through His work, has made it possible for the believer to be given the gift of righteousness. This is the basis of our acceptance by God.

E. The Christian is Absolved, Romans 8:1.

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Observation: The believer has been released from the consequences of his guilt and unrighteousness. The sentence of condemnation has been lifted – he is free from condemnation.

F. The Christian is Sanctified, Preserved and Called, Jude 1.

Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called.

Observation: "Sanctified" refers to the truth that God has separated the believer from all spurious involvement so that he may belong only to God. "Preserved" indicates that the believer is protected by God. "Called" signifies the truth that God has included the Christian in His plan to glorify Jesus Christ.

G. The Christian will be Glorified, Jude 24.

Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.

Observation: This is a possession in the form of a promise. As yet the believer has not experienced glorification -- but he will!

III. The Truth Applied: The Christian must Appropriately Possess His Possessions.

I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk (live) worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called. Ephesians 4:1

Observation: The believer must accept the truth of his possession and choose to live in harmony with them. The key is the decision of faith.

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