

Lec 4 Letter to the Ephesians

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Thanking God and Introduction to the Book of Ephesians

Good evening. Are you feeling hot? Thank God for this time He has given us so we can read, listen to, and learn His holy Word. In these classes, we are reading together the letter of Apostle Paul to the Ephesians. In the past classes, we talked about some introduction, and we discussed it in good detail. Then we divided the book of Ephesians into parts. We saw that there are three big parts, and we explained them with the help of Watchman Nee.

Three Main Parts of Ephesians

Do you remember them or forgot? Anyone from the back wants to say what were those three parts? They were very easy. Yes, a bit forward and backward, second, third—yes, S.

This is when the Holy Spirit moves in our heart, we experience sitting with Christ. All pain goes away. We rest in Christ.

The second part was *"Walk in the world"*. What blessings do we have in Christ? By our way of living, by our walk, the world should know that we are Christians. Paul tells us: walk in love, walk in unity, walk like wise people, and walk like children of God.

What was the third point in this letter? *Stand against the demons*. Stand against evil spirits. Fight spiritual war. And after finishing all the work and God's full plan in your life, still keep standing.

These are the three things we have studied.

Ephesians Chapter 1: Blessings, Prayer, and God's Plan

Then we read the first 14 verses of the letter to the Ephesians. We have finished reading them. After that, there is Paul's prayer, which he prays for the believers, especially for the believers in Ephesus. This prayer is very inspiring. Today we will think more about this.

First Part: Believers in Christ from the Beginning of Time

Today we will see how we are in Christ. Verses 3 to 12 talk about this. In these verses, we see: who we are with Christ from the beginning—what happened with us?

Before the world was created, before anything was made, we were in Christ. He wrote this from verse 3 to 12. He gave us all kinds of spiritual blessings. He chose us. He gave us much grace in Christ.

Second Part: Believers in the World – Seal of the Holy Spirit

The second part we will study today is in verses 13 and 14—still in chapter 1. Our topic here is: *we believers, with Christ, in the world.*

First, we were in Christ before time. Now we are in the world. In this part, we accepted Christ. The Holy Spirit put a seal on us. This seal is like a guarantee for our inheritance. And when Christ returns, this seal will guarantee that we will fully receive everything God promised us.

Third Part: We Rose with Christ

The third part of chapter 1 is from verse 15 to the last verse. What is the last verse? Verse 23. We are with Christ, in His resurrection. Today, we will think about these three points.

Heavenly Blessings and Our Choosing Before Time

Let's read verse 3 of chapter 1:

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us—believers—with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.”

What is written? He gave us *every kind* of spiritual blessing. Christians are blessed people. They are in Christ. They are rich. They have received great grace in Christ.

Then it is written: He chose us—believers—when? Look carefully: We are not believers by chance. It did not happen suddenly. It was not because of the situation. *Before the world was made*, before anything existed, God chose us.

God's Plan and Adopted Sons

I can't even think deeply about this: when nothing was made, by His will and power, God knew us, saw us, made everything perfect, included us in Christ, made plans for us, and gave meaning to our lives. Hallelujah!
Before the world was made, He chose us.

Why did He choose us? Let's see, and you also tell me. In that same verse, it is written why. God chose us before the world was made. Why?
Daughters on this side, tell me—why did our God choose us in Christ before the world was made? What does the Word say?

Yes, son, you tell—don't hit him. Okay, read it—well done! You'll get a biscuit.
Yes, why did He choose us, son?

So that we may be **holy in love**. Our love for each other should be pure. It should not have selfishness. It should be different. It should be innocent. No lies in it. God chose us in Christ before the world was made for this reason. Hallelujah!

That was the first reason: so we may be holy in love.
What was the second reason, son? Yes, that we also may be *blameless*.
He chose us for this too.

Then it is written: He also **decided before time**. What did God do? He chose us, told us the reason, and then decided that we would become **His adopted sons**. Isn't it?

God's Adoption and His Nature Given to Us

What are the full words? Can a son say them too? "He decided for us by His good will."

God's will was good. He decided for us before the world was made, so that

through Jesus Christ... Oh, Hallelujah! We become God's **adopted** sons and daughters.

In Greek, the word "adopted" means: *to place someone in the position of a son*. To make someone your own child.

There is no time now to talk more on this.

We also adopt sons and daughters. Even in courts or among relatives. But our adoption and God's adoption are very different.

We can raise a child, but that child won't have our DNA, our life, or our nature. Legally, he will be our child. He will get property and rights and love.

But one thing cannot happen:

The adopted father **cannot give his life or nature** to that child. Why? Because it is not possible.

But when **God adopts us**, through the Holy Spirit's power and movement, **He gives us His life, His nature, and His Spirit**

God's Incorruptible Seed

The Holy Bible calls it the incorruptible seed. Let's look at 1 Peter, chapter 1, and think about it. Yes, I found the reference, let's read verses 22 and 23 with full attention and eagerness if you understand what I am saying. "Because you have purified your souls by obeying the truth, so you love your brothers without any selfishness. Therefore, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born again, not from a perishable seed, but from an imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God." What does it mean to be born of God's nature? Love one another because you are brothers and sisters in Christ. You are not born from a perishable seed. From a perishable seed, brothers and sisters are born in our families—from a mother and father's seed—they are brothers and sisters, but that seed is perishable and will die. So from which seed are you born? From an imperishable seed. What is this? It is written further: this imperishable seed is the word of God, through which, by the power of the Holy Spirit, you have been born again. This word is living, holy, and enduring. By its power, you are born into God's family. Hallelujah! Tell me, hasn't God given us a great blessing? If I am born from God's incorruptible seed, that means God's nature is inside me. God's imperishable, eternal life is in me. His nature is in me, His love is in me, His passion is in me, His power is in me. Naturally, I will love Him, do His work, and speak His name because I am born from Him.

Adopted into God's Lap

This is the difference between being adopted by a human and adopted by God. Yes, sisters, this is the difference. A person can raise a child, but God makes that child His son or daughter. There is a difference between the two. Now a girl tells me, what is the difference between both types of adoption? One is a human way. Yes, you are partly right, but not fully. Go ahead, I will explain more. Otherwise, it won't be clear. Yes brother, you tell me. It is simple. When you take a child legally, that child becomes yours. Okay, we give love, rights, property, and even our name. But there is one thing we cannot give to that child—our nature or our blood—because he was born from another seed. But when God adopts us, He gives us His incorruptible seed, His word, His power, and makes us born again. And God's life comes inside us. This is the difference. I have said it four times now. Don't say you will ask in the next class.

Importance of Spiritual Experience

Brother Munawar, don't speak so loudly in this heat! Sit quietly, I will ask, sit silently. Friends! My heart wants to praise my God, who showed us so much mercy that even though we were alone, we became His sons and truly part of His body. He put His incorruptible word inside us by the power of the Holy Spirit. And brother, if this is not in you, then you are not born again. Then you are not a true Christian. Then you are just a Christian by name, culturally a Christian. But “newborn Christians”—those born again—have God's life inside them. If you have not had this experience, then the real change has not happened in you yet. Hallelujah!

Believing the Good News of Salvation

Okay, today's second big topic. We have talked enough. My friend did not come today, why are you laughing? Maybe he has exams or something. Look what the world has done with us. Let's take verses 13 and 14 now. I will read and in the same—who? Jesus of Nazareth! In Jesus, you also, who are in Jesus, who are in the church, who are saved—when you heard the word of truth—the first step—when you heard the word of truth, which includes obedience to the word. The word of truth, which is the good news of your salvation, came to you, you believed and accepted it. It was our work—with the help of the Spirit, by His grace. We recognized Jesus and welcomed Him into our hearts.

Seal of the Holy Spirit

God did a wonderful work—it is written ahead, go and read what is written: “When you heard the word of truth, which is the good news of your salvation, and believed in it, then the promised Holy Spirit sealed you!” Wow! Then the promised

Holy Spirit sealed us who believed, who accepted the word, who accepted Christ as Savior. God put His Holy Spirit's seal on that person. This is the same Spirit He promised. Hallelujah! This is not a cold hallelujah—it is a real hallelujah!

Sincerity of God's Ownership

Okay, the seal was placed, then what happened? What is the purpose of this seal? It is for the sincerity of God's ownership. God has a property for us in heaven. This seal is the guarantee of that property, the pledge of our ascent. Brother, today you got a pledge! Do you understand? Any brother stand behind and loudly read these two verses? Brother, mike two! Yes, verses 13 and 14, praise hallelujah! "You also, when you heard the word of truth, which is the good news of our salvation—and believed in it—hallelujah! Then the promised Holy Spirit was sealed on you." When was the seal placed? When you believed, when you heard the word, when you accepted it—then God stood and through that seal—hallelujah—what did He do? What is this seal? It is for the sincerity of God's ownership. It is the property—inheritance—position—to be given to us! Sincerity here means—when God gives you your part, and this seal is its pledge. You have been given the "first installment." Further, this is for the sincerity of God's ownership—our pledge of ascent—so that the glory of God is praised. Hallelujah! Praise hallelujah! Shout! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! If you understand, even the dish washer will sing God's songs. The Lord God is king, and His work will surely be completed. Hallelujah!

Importance and Effect of the Seal

Now let's see what happens when this "seal" is put on a paper or something. What difference does it make? It is made official, right? My friend didn't come today. I am remembering him. Brother Munawar, tell me—is this right? This is an example of weak friendship! Yes, you tell me—what happens when a "seal" or "stamp" is put on a paper that is a document? "The work is finished"—the work is done. The work is done, the paper is official. Yes, value increases. Anyone else? "What happens if a seal is put?" Yes! Value increases. Well done, son! It shows "authority." It shows authority. Authority! Yes! This letter became special.

Seal of the Spirit

Those who have come into Christ have received the seal of the Spirit; they are no longer ordinary but have become special. I have written down six or seven points about this "seal." Let's write them down: This seal of the "Holy Promised Spirit" is the seal of the Holy Spirit. What does it mean?

Seven meanings of the seal

1. Security
2. Ownership – who is the owner? It is Him!
3. Authority
4. Pledge – a deal is made
5. Guarantee
6. Down Payment
7. Inseparable – an inseparable friend – the Holy Spirit!

The seal is placed, confirmation is done! Friends, these seven works of God's seal have happened inside us since we accepted Christ.

A parable – Seal on the wood

Background? What was the letter? This is also valuable! I think it was like an announcement, and if there were no vegetables – then one might want to repent. Oh! God gave a special blessing! It is His book, His Holy Spirit is in it, and it was written in it – this letter was written to them – it was a port city. They were doing the wood business, meaning timber. Listen, this is about the seal: Biligram said the owner wanted to buy bundles of wood he liked. He had his seal in his hand. In the end, he himself bought all the wood bundles and put his seal on each one. They were collected and labeled. They tied the bundles on rivers, and the wood floated with the water to the address. People there would take the shipment and notify: yes, the goods have arrived, come and take them.

Recognition of the owner and the seal

Now that shipment did not belong to any person. The owner gave his trusted servant the seal that said that the bundle with this seal is mine, I have paid its price, recognize it and bring it home.

Biligram gave this example: Today we are the living woods of God, which He bought with His blood. And one day the trumpet will sound, His angels will come, and those who have the seal of the Holy Spirit will be recognized and taken to their home in heaven.

Importance of the Holy Spirit

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! That is why it is written: Do not grieve the Holy Spirit. The seal is placed – if it gets rubbed or damaged and is not recognized, it may not reach home! Keep it clean, keep lives pure, be full of the Spirit, show His glory in the world, praise His glory. This is a mark! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise Jesus! For His great work!

The one who drinks milk from his mother drinks strongly! Clap your hands!
Hallelujah! Glory to God!

Prayer and request for blessing

O Lord! Our prayer in Jesus' name is that these revelations become light in our spirit. Help us, God! We ask for Your blessing on this class and on those who are online and listening with us. In Jesus' name, may the Holy Spirit come on us, on them, and on all who will listen. May we be blessed and feel rich. In Christ's name, Amen!

Prayer of Apostle Paul for believers

Friends, next is the prayer of Apostle Paul for believers who live in Jesus – listen to this prayer so we can compare our prayers with Paul's. Where does it come from? And what is he saying? My prayer is that the same depth, power, and anointing enter our prayers, and that we become a source of blessing for ourselves, our families, our country, and the whole world.

Points of prayer (Ephesians 1:15-23)

Thanks for the Holy Bible! The prayers of the apostles are like treasures for us.

Point 1: Thanks for faith

It says: "I do not stop giving thanks for the faith you have in God Jesus and all the saints." Faith is a great wealth. It is a heavenly treasure. Blessed are those whose hearts have faith by the power of the Holy Spirit and who do not compromise on this faith.

Point 2: Prayer for knowledge of God

"And I always remember you in my prayers that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation so that you may know Him." We should receive the Spirit of wisdom and revelation to know God.

Point 3: Eyes of the heart to be enlightened

"And the eyes of your heart be enlightened..." Why? So that you may know what hope is in His calling, and the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints. When our eyes are opened, we will understand our calling and the riches of God's glory will outshine the wealth and brightness of the world. Hallelujah!

Point 4: Knowledge of God's great power

What else does the apostle pray? Verse 19: And the great power for those who

believe is very great. The fourth request is that we know God's great power. This is also a prayer.

Point 5: Experience of resurrection power

What is the fifth prayer? According to His great power, which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places. One sign of His great power is Jesus' resurrection. When Jesus of Nazareth rose from the dead, He was honored and seated with God in heaven. Hallelujah!

Point 6: Jesus is above every name

Next point: Verse 21: He was seated above all rule—political, spiritual, and social—all governments, authorities, powers, and every name. Jesus of Nazareth was highly honored, a name that will be named not only in this world but also in the world to come.

Point 7: Church is given leadership

And everything was put under His feet. Under whose feet? (Don't shout loudly, don't be scared!) Under whose feet is everything put? The One who rose from the dead and was made the head of everything? It is written: He was honored, alive from the dead, the ruler of every power and name. And to whom was it given? To the church. When the world was given a Son, He was the only Son. When the church was given a Son, He was the firstborn Son. And besides that, He gave the Son as the Son for the church.

Church: His body

This means the church is His body, the place where He lives and fills everything in every way.

Purpose of prayer: Spiritual wealth

Friends, that was the blackboard, whiteboard enough. Tell me, whose requests are these? Pray for me, the situation is bad. Is there anyone to pray for me? Just to get my own home. It is true, my prayer is that God gives every Christian their own house, their jobs, their home. But friends, Christianity is not just money, committees, visas, or healing. Christianity is much greater wealth.

What is the real wealth? Hallelujah! Hallelujah! What wealth? Our faith in Christ. Such knowledge that you receive wisdom to know God, receive revelation, have your heart's eyes opened, recognize your calling, see the glory of the heavenly riches, experience God's great power, recognize the resurrection of Jesus who is

the head and ruler of the church. May the honor and praise of His name continue forever. Hallelujah!

Closing Prayer and Thanksgiving

Let us all stand and pray. Give thanks for being Christians, thank Christ, thank the Father for His grace, praise Him for His blessings. And you become a spring, not just a tap that flows when you open it. These springs will burst out like fountains of prayer. Let us all thank God. Hallelujah! O Lord, we thank You! O Lord, we praise You! O Lord, we glorify You! O Lord, You are good! Your mercy is forever! You have been kind to us. We praise You, thank You, and bless You. I ask Your grace on Your children, be with them, open their eyes, let them know You, let them know the power of resurrection. Be with them, widen their vision, give them motivation, fill them with the light of Your Word. I thank You in the name of Christ God. Amen.
God bless you!

