

EPHESIANS LINE BY LINE

The story so far...

Paul writes this letter as an apostle to those who are saints and faithful to Jesus in Ephesus.

These Ephesian saints are those who have received grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ and have been blessed by God the Father with every spiritual blessing.

God the Father has blessed us by choosing to adopt us as sons, by redeeming us through the death of His Son, and by uniting us (and one day all things) under the rule of His Son.

Ephesians 1:11-12

*“In him
we have obtained
an inheritance,

having been predestined
according to the purpose of him
who works all things
according to the counsel of his will,

so that we
who were the first to hope in Christ
might be to the praise of his glory.”*

Why might we struggle with this?

Luke 13:1

Luke 13:4

What can we be certain of?

Genesis 50:20

Romans 8:28

Verse 12

How has this (v11a) also happened?

Ephesians 1:12a

Why has this happened?

Ephesians 1:12b

How is God glorified through this?

How should we respond to this wonderful truth that God the Father has given Jewish believers to His Son as an inheritance?

Ephesians 1:3a

Verse 11a

There are two ways of translating this phrase. It could mean “we were made an inheritance” or “we have obtained an inheritance”. Which option do the following verses support?

Deuteronomy 4:20

Deuteronomy 32:9

Psalms 33:12

Psalms 135:4

Malachi 3:17

John 6:37, 39

Romans 8:17

1 Corinthians 3:22-23

Colossians 1:12

1 Peter 1:3-4

If we translate this phrase as “we were made an inheritance”, what does that mean?

If we translate this phrase as “we have obtained an inheritance”, what does that mean?

How might we decide which option to choose?

Who is the ‘we’ referring to?

Ephesians 1:12

Acts 2:5-12, 41

So, what is the first part of verse 11 telling us?

Verse 11b

How has this (v11a) happened?

Ephesians 1:11b

What is the counsel of God’s will?

Ephesians 1:11a

What is the plan or purpose of God?

What will the plan or purpose of God achieve?

Is anything outside of God’s plan and purpose?

Ephesians 1:11b

What does this tell us about God?