

Our Riches in Christ **Ephesians 1:9-17**

John G. Wendel & his six sisters inherited a vast fortune, yet lived as though penniless. John sought to keep the family fortune in tact so he never married & succeeded in keeping five sisters from marrying. For 50 yrs John practically kept them prisoners in the same house. He died in 1915 in NY City but instilled such a miserly attitude in the girls that by the time the last sister died in 1931 the estate was virtually untouched & valued at \$100 million dollars (\$2 billion today). After her death it was discovered they never had a telephone, no radio, no electricity, ate cold oatmeal, no car and the last sister only had one dress, which she made herself and had worn for 25 years. **Great riches but of no benefit--unwilling to spend it**

Book of Ephesians tell us of our great riches in Christ & how we are to tap into the wealth Jesus Christ has gained for us on the cross. Yet many Christians live like the Wendel family, destitute w/o faith to spend or enter into their **inheritance**-what they own. Yet we've been ***blessed w/ every spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. :3***

God has chosen us, predestined us adopted us into His family, we've been redeemed & forgiven--all according to the ***riches of His grace***. We don't deserve it, can't earn it, will never lose it. All these blessing are ***in*** 90 x's Christ Jesus, we are now in union w/ God by the power of the Holy Spirit.

9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him 10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things upon the earth. In Him

Mystery – hidden but now revealed, ***sacred secret*** – Gods will & plans for our life—Greatest need in our ***woke*** culture--w/ things turned upside down--not making sense are ?'s --'who am I' 'where am I going', 'why am I here' 'what is my value as a person .to God' 'what does God say about me' 'what is my purpose in life' Seeking answers apart from God ***go deeper into lost-ness***

In God's heavenly bank account ***our riches in Christ*** we find the answers. It's a joint account when we come to know Jesus as savior. God puts in I draw out—For us it's – adoption, acceptance, redemption, forgiveness, wisdom, inheritance, sealed by Holy Spirit, etc.

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Summing up-to gather, bring to a head—climax of human history. What sin destroyed, God thru Christ restores to His purposes. Us & new H & E.

11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, 12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

Inheritance-we are **joint-heirs** w/ Christ—we will be there & be partakers w/ Christ when He claims His *inheritance*. All planned for us beforehand-His purpose & will by *counsel*, to advise, resolved & unchangeable plan **F/S/HS**. Why do it for undeserving sinners? For the *praise of His glory*

13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

After listening- w/ intent of doing *Pr 20:12 The hearing ear and the seeing eye, The LORD has made both of them.*-*Naylene*--*message-good news* & *believing* in object of message, **Jesus Christ**--You were *sealed* w/ Holy Spirit--legal term of *finishing a transaction*, signet or mark--seal in wax or clay—**speaks of ownership**. Pharaoh/Joseph signet ring; Pilate sealed tomb; Holy Spirit in believer-seal-testimony that faith is genuine.

John Wesley 'A full impression of the image of Christ on their souls' That God possesses & owns entirely what He has sealed—**yet we have free will**. *HS of Promise*-*Ez 36:27 'I will put My spirit w/in you'* Peter **Acts 2:38-39** read

Pledge-engagement ring-down payment to purchase- a guarantee--advance installment—emphasis on our future position *inheritance* w/ Him-**Glorified**. He will come for what He purchased.

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Phil 3:20,21 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; 21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

*15 For this reason I too, having **heard** of the **faith** in the Lord Jesus which exists among you, and your **love** for all the saints, 16 do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may **give** to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.*

Paul *heard*, people talk about you & your walk w/ the Lord—Our reputation as believers & a church has been & is being talked about. For them *faith & love*. *'If arrested for being a Christian would there be enough evident to convict?'*

Paul prays from prison for spiritual perception & insight--highest earthly possession we can have—*wisdom & knowledge of God Himself*. *Jer 9:24 but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice, and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things," declares the LORD.*

First work of the Holy Spirit in new believers life is to reveal the who Jesus is. *Jn 15:26 KJV "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.*

Not **Mormon**-spirit brother of Lucifer; Not **JW**-Michael the Ark angel; Not **Bahai** Not one of many exalted masters behind Baha u llah

John 1:1-5;14 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it...14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 14:8,9 *Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." 9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how do you say, 'Show us the Father'? 1Jn 5:20 And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding, in order that we might know Him who is true, and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.*