Blessed Us with Every Spiritual Blessing By Trey Sullins

Sometimes it feels like we are always the ones with the struggles. Other people have more money than us. Other people have less health problems than us. Other people have a better job than us. Someone else always seems to be blessed more than we are. While it might feel like this sometimes, in reality, the most blessed people are not the ones with these things. The most blessed people are Christians! In Ephesians 1:3 the Holy Spirit declares to us the great things which God has done: "blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ." These great blessings are offered to anyone who chooses to be a child of God!

The first great part of this is that God has given "all spiritual blessings." "All" indicates that nothing is left out which means that every single spiritual blessing that humans have the ability to get are from God. Furthermore, you are not going to find these blessing the local grocery store because these blessings are things which you can only find when given from heaven. There are many things in life which we can obtain by working at it, but none of these spiritual blessings are possible for us without God's grace. Finally, notice the origination and characteristic of these blessings are "in the heavenly places." When God showers these blessings down upon humans, we get a taste of the glories of heaven. In our life's we think cheap gas, a Christmas bonus, or good medical technology are blessings. Certainly, they are in a physical sense. However, the blessings from God are so much greater and transcend the physical world. They are heavenly in nature and beyond anything this life has to offer.

What are these blessings? More specifically the blessed in reference here are a wide range of things which God offers to man. Everything from redemption to the word of God itself are spiritual blessings from God. When we read the scriptures and learn how we can be saved, be forgiven, be examples to the world, all of these things are spiritual blessings from God. These blessings represent everything that we know about God, and furthermore, show us how to be His people. Truly, without these spiritual blessings we would be nothing more than lost souls roaming around with no aim, purpose, or path to God. But with these spiritual blessings, we are a "chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, his own special people (1 Peter 2:9).

It is also important to remember we were chosen for these blessings! Ephesians 1:4 says, "just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world." Normally and unless you are really lucky, the great blessings of this physical life are something that you have to get for yourself. But in this case God has done the work and extends these things out to us. Can you imagine having to figure out how to get to heaven by yourself? Certainly that would be an impossible task! Instead of this, God chose a group of people that would receive these great things. Notice again the wording in Ephesians 1:4, "chose us **in Him.**" Who is it that God chose? Those in Him! That means every single person has access to these great blessings; all they have to do choose to be in Him. Being in Him means submitting to His will and being a Christian according to His pattern which we find in the New Testament!

Is it not wonderful that the Almighty God desires to bless His own in this way? It certainly is! He loves us so much that can partake of the heavenly blessings because He chose us. Praise God for such a great and graceful gift. We must always remember the simple pattern though; God blesses

those who are His. Therefore, we must choose to be His people by becoming Christians. We do this by hearing the gospel (Romans 10:17), believing (Mark 16:16), repenting (Acts 2:38), confessing Christ (Romans 10:9), being baptized (Acts 2:38), and finally living with faithful obedience and service every day. Bless be our God and Father!