BURN OUR HEARTS · STUDY GUIDE

Sealed In Christ

On the sermon **"Sealed In Christ"** by **Pastor Philip Anthony Mitchell**, 2819 Church, Atlanta · Ephesians 1:11-14

EPHESIANS 1:11-14 (ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION)

[11]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, [12]so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. [13]In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, [14]who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Big idea: When you heard the gospel and believed, God sealed you with His promised Holy Spirit: you are real, you are His, and you are kept.

KEY POINTS FROM THE SERMON

1. **The inheritance and the God who works all things (Ephesians 1:11-12).** The best part of the inheritance is God Himself: "I am your portion and your inheritance" (Numbers 18:20). Pastor Mitchell: "He's working everything right now according to the counsel of His will. Ain't no oopsies."
2. **"You also": the gospel brings outsiders in (Ephesians 1:13).** Pastor Mitchell sums up "also" in one word: inclusion. In Christ "the blessing of Abraham" comes to the Gentiles (Galatians 3:14). There is one word of truth, one gospel: "He exchanges His righteousness for your unrighteousness."
3. **Sealed: real, owned and protected (Ephesians 1:13-14).** "God does not deal in fake Louis Vuitton." "A seal communicated three things. Authentication, that's real. Ownership, that's mine. And protection." The Spirit is the "guarantee" (or down payment) of what is coming.
4. **Our inheritance: one body (Ephesians 1:14, 18).** "We," "you," then "our": Jews and Gentiles, one people. "We would be His inheritance and He would be ours." Paul prays you will know "the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints."

WHERE IS CHRIST?

- **Every blessing is "in him."** You are not sealed for being impressive. You are sealed in Christ, who "made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21). He died in your place and rose again.
- **The promised Spirit.** God promised, "I will put my Spirit within you" (Ezekiel 36:27), and Jesus told His disciples to "wait for the promise of the Father" (Acts 1:4).
- **He keeps what He seals.** "No one will snatch them out of my hand" (John 10:28). You "were sealed for the day of redemption" (Ephesians 4:30).

DISCUSS OR REFLECT

1. Anybody can wear the name "Christian." What does God's seal say that a label can't?
2. Read Ephesians 1:11. How does God working "all things according to the counsel of his will" change how you see a hard season?
3. Paul moves from "we" to "you also" to "our." What does that say about who belongs in God's family?
4. Read verse 13: heard, believed, sealed. Why does it matter that the seal is God's act and not your feeling?
5. If believers are God's inheritance (Ephesians 1:18), how should that change the way you treat other Christians?

APPLICATION (WHAT CAN I DO OR PRAY FOR?)

Read Ephesians 1:3-14 out loud in one sitting. Then pick one believer you have been quick to criticize and pray for them by name. When you doubt you belong to Christ, look to Christ first; the fruit of the Spirit follows (Romans 8:16).

Go deeper: Find more sermons from Pastor Philip Anthony Mitchell on the 2819 Church YouTube channel, **youtube.com/@2819Church**, and at **2819church.org**

Father, thank You for sealing us in Christ with Your promised Holy Spirit. When we doubt, remind us that You keep what You seal. Make us one body that prays more and slanders less, to the praise of Your glory. In Jesus' name, amen.

SCRIPTURE TO READ

Ephesians 1:3-14 · Numbers 18:20 · Deuteronomy 32:9 · Galatians 3:14 · Ezekiel 36:27 · 2 Corinthians 5:21 · John 10:28 · Ephesians 4:30 · Romans 8:16

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"Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" (Luke 24:32)

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