

Praising God for his great plan –

Eph.1:1-14

The world is full of people praising – sports teams, books, music, food, films etc.

Ephesians – a remarkable letter

a. Writer

1. Restricted but soaring – 3:1; 4:1; 6:20
2. Spiritual realities dominate – “Heavenly realms” - 1:3,20;2:6;3:10;6:12

b. Readers

Ephesus – Centre of commerce, education, religion, sport.
Chief city of Roman Asia

Acts 19:10

1. The praise of God

a. Our calling

1. To have God as our “Sun”

2. To find in God deep, lasting, joyful satisfaction

“Man’s chief end is to glorify God by enjoying him forever”

The praise of God –reasons for praise

1. God's unbelievable plan

- eternal,all-wise,all-encompassing plan-1:4,8-10
- totally dependent on God's grace-1:6,7; 2:7
- centred on Jesus – “In Christ/him”

2. Incredible blessings for us – 1:3

2. Incomparable blessings

a. Chosen by the Father – v.4,5,11

Chosen, predestined, foreknowledge

1. To be holy, blameless
2. To be adopted

b. Redeemed through the Son – v.7

Redemption, ransom, forgiveness

- deliverance, restoration, freedom,
- a price paid

c. Sealed by the Spirit – v.13,14;

2Cor.1:21,22

1. Belong to God – “I am yours, you are mine”

Strong assurance

2. Guaranteed inheritance

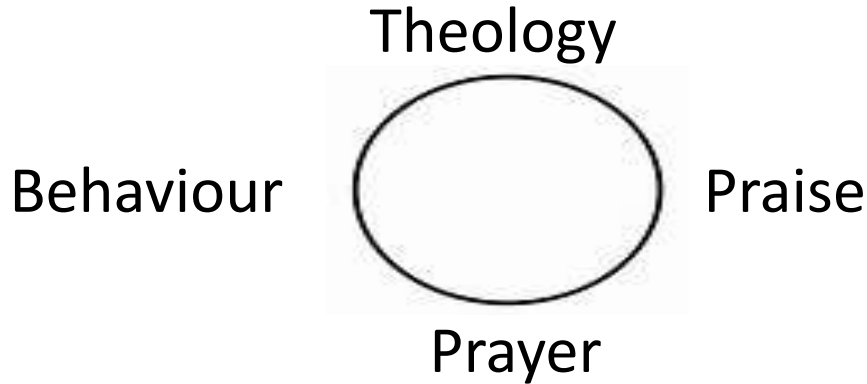
- we have the deposit now

- the future inheritance is certain

Strong & certain hope

Reflection

1. The 3 persons of the Triune God are active
2. Understanding Bible truth fuels worship



3. Worshipping God – songs of praise AND trusting, obedient lives – Amos5:21-24; Is.1:10-17