

Down But Not Out! - Part 5

Reclaiming Your Inheritance

Ephesians 1:13-14

13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,

14 who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession - to the praise of his glory.

I. God Cannot Help But Love Us - Ephesians
2:1-3

1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,

2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

A. His Love Shown to Us - Ephesians 2:4-5

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,

5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved.

B. His Love Shared with Us - Ephesians 2:6-9

6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God -

9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

II. God Cannot Help But Pursue Us - Romans 5:6

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

A. The Proof of God's Love - Romans 5:7-8

7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die.

8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

B. The Provision of God's Love - Romans 5:9-10

9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

10 For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

III. God Cannot Help But Keep Us - Colossians 1:20

20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

A. We Were Alienated - Colossians 1:21

21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.

B. We Are Reconciled - Colossians 1:22

22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation

