

## **Ephesians 1:3-6**

**1:1** Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are at Ephesus and *who are* faithful in Christ Jesus:

1:2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,

1:4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love

1:5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,

1:6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

## Questions Ephesians 1:3-6

As you may have noticed, in his opening paragraph, the apostle Paul identifies the author, destination, and initial greeting (in typical Greek fashion); then he launches into an informed, passionate praise section that shows us not only many of the specific things God has done for believers, but also the sense of awe and thanksgiving Paul had toward "the One who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing." Paul summarizes the extent of the spiritual blessings for God's children in verses 3 through 14 and expresses his prayer in verses 15 through 23 that the lives of his readers would be richly empowered as they come to a fuller understanding of their spiritual blessings in Christ.

Look at how Paul describes each of the blessings. Use a Bible dictionary or some other Bible study resource to better understand the richness of the terms Paul uses to describe each blessing. Then determine from the context what Paul means.

chosen (v. 4-6) - selected; specifically, singling out or selecting for a purpose.  
predestined us to be adopted as sons (v. 5); predestine - to mark off, set beforehand.

1. Note the recurring phrase "in Him" and consider why Paul repeats it. Record your observations below.
2. When did God choose us? Why did God choose us?
3. What did God choose us for?
4. When did God predestine us? Why? What was his purpose?
5. What does it mean to be adopted as a son?