

Weekly Devotionals on How to Learn Christ: Introduction of IN CHRIST.

How do we as Christians describe ourselves according to the Bible since the word Christian, as you know, is only listed 3 times in the Bible; well in devotional reading the describing is done so naturally that it is easily overlooked: we are IN CHRIST, and much of the first 3 chapters of Ephesians lay the basic of How to Learn Christ in terms of BIC and AIC, that is Before in Christ and After in Christ. Let us do a devotional reading of Ephesians chapter 1 and noting the 6 times we find IN CHRIST.

1. Verse 1 in the greeting, Christians are referred to as "the faithful in Christ Jesus" just as surely as they are in the region of Ephesus.
2. Verse 3, in Christ describes our spiritual blessings in the heavenly place IN CHRIST that circumvents time. The Father chose us to be that before even the foundation of the earth which within itself tells us what was primarily on the Father's mind when He created us and the heavens and the earth.
3. Verse 10 with the only dispensation the Bible mentions, that is the dispensation of the fulness of time, the Father then gathered "together in one all things IN CHRIST", all things in heaven and on earth are united in Christ.
4. Verse 12, you are not surprised to find a sub description of learning Christ under IN CHRIST of "we who trusted IN CHRIST".
5. NOT ONLY IN THIS AGE BUT IN THE AGE TO COME, verse 20, with or IN CHRIST we have already been seated in the heavenly places.

IT may be time for an AMEN as God the Father has already blessed us in heavenly place IN CHRIST before we get there!

Ephesians 1 New King James Version (NKJV)

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God,

To the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus:

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

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, ⁴just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He ^[a]made us accepted in the Beloved.

⁷In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace ⁸which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and ^[b]prudence, ⁹having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, ^[c]both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. ¹¹In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, ¹²that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

¹³In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴who^[d] is the ^[e]guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

¹⁵Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸the eyes of your ^[f]understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the exceeding greatness of

His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all principality and power and ²²might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

²²And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, ²³which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.