

## The Assurance of Our Inheritance - Ephesians 1:11-16 - "Living in Certainty"

Paul is certain of:

1. His POSITION in Christ.
  - "In Him" – Galatians 2:20
2. His PORTION in heaven.
  - "have obtained an inheritance"
1. 'Future-Past' tense
2. from the verb /kleros/, meaning "to cast lots"
3. similar to the future ownership of the Promised Land (Joshua 14:2)
4. the land was still occupied!

### Our Inheritance

- New bodies. (Rom. 8:23, 1 Corinthians 15:50-53)
  - No more sadness, pain, death. (Rev. 21:4)
  - A safe, comfortable, beautiful dwelling place in the city of Our God. (Jn. 14:1-3)
  - To live with Jesus forever and ever. (Rev. 11:15, 22:5)
- "who works"
1. /energeo/, "energy, force, power"
  2. God is the force behind everything, & everything happens according to His will
3. His PURPOSE for life.
    - "to the praise of His Glory"
  1. Philippians 1:20

Paul's Certainty for the Ephesian/Asian believers.

(most oldest manuscripts do not include "who are in Ephesus" in verse 1:1.)

- "you also"
1. Certain that they heard the Gospel. (Acts 19)
  2. Certain that they believed & were saved.
  3. Certain that they have received their inheritance too.

- **HOW CAN HE BE THIS CERTAIN???**

"Sealed with the Holy Spirit"

- the Holy Spirit came and lived inside the believers
- their lives exemplified this change (Gal. 5:22-23)
  1. lived their faith in Jesus Christ. (Phil. 1:9-11)
  2. loved other believers. (1 Jn. 3:23-24)

### Trusting in Him

The aim of our lives as believers is not to be the result of our Christian walk (love, joy, peace, patience, etc), but the relationship with Christ that will produce these things in their own time. It is the heart that is deeply in love with Jesus through which all of His love will flow. It is the life that is certain of its destiny that will not be bothered by the hindrances of the day. (Romans 4:3-5, 1 Peter 1:3-9)