Talmid Shorts 01/31/18

Dr. Eddie Ildefonso The Blessings of God

The Blessings of God

2 Peter 1:1-4

2 Peter 1:1-4 (NASB)

¹ "Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ:

² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;

³ seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

⁴ For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of *the* divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust."

When we place our trust in God, we can be assured that He provides for all of our needs. Here are a few of our blessings we receive from the Lord:

Forgiveness. When you place your trust in Jesus Christ, your sin is washed away. This refers not only to all previous sin but also to the sin you have not yet committed (**Ephesians 1:7**).

Ephesians 1:7 (NASB)

⁷ "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace."

Freedom. Christianity is the only religion in the world that offers freedom from a works-based righteousness. This means that we do not have to earn the Lord's favor. He loves us perfectly and has made provision for our complete salvation through His Son. All we have to do is accept this loving gift of grace (John 8:36).

John 8:36 (NASB)

³⁶ "So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

Union with God. We don't worship a distant deity; we praise a loving Father who knows every detail of our lives. **Ephesians 1:13** reveals that we are "sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit."

Ephesians 1:13 (NASB)

¹³ "In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were <u>sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise</u>."

This means we are forever joined to the Father. Read <u>Ephesians 1:1-14</u> closely and count all the times that the apostle Paul uses the phrase "**in Him**"—you will see the great emphasis he placed on his relationship with Christ.

Eternal Life. If you have been sealed in God, then you are forever bound with Him. He has you in His grip, and nothing can pull you away (<u>John 10:28-29</u>).

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John 10:28-29 (NASB)

 $^{28}\mbox{\ensuremath{^{\prime\prime}}} And~I$ give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

²⁹ My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of the Father's hand."

Money is fleeting, yet it is the god to which many people bow. The Lord has riches of greater worth for you. Whether you are wealthy or not, do not let your material possessions keep you from accepting your riches in Christ. There is surely more value in what God has to offer.