

READING SOMEONE ELSE'S MAIL?

Vss. 1-2

“To the **saints**...the faithful in Christ Jesus”

Holy. Set apart. Sanctified. Consecrated.

Chaste. Pure. Devoted to God.

Sharing in God's purity.

Abstaining from defilement.



IDENTITY CRISIS: CHOSEN BY GOD

Ephesians 1:3-10



PRAISE BE TO GOD VS. 3

IF you are in Christ, you are blessed by God Himself

In the heavenly realms
Matt. 6:19-21; Col. 3:1-4

Spiritual blessings
1 Peter 1:3-9



HE CHOSE US VS. 4

If you are in Christ, God chose you (See John 15:16)

(A NOTE ON ELECTION AND PREDESTINATION:

Some may say, “I don’t believe in that!”

God’s not waiting on us to give a ‘thumbs up’ on these doctrines, as if we have the liberty to choose or refuse. Ours is to humbly receive the word, to correctly handle it, and to live in submission to it.)



If you are in Christ, 'holy and blameless' is expected

To be clear:

Our holiness is the RESULT of God's choosing,
NOT THE BASIS of it...



VS. 5

In love He predestined us...

“To determine or decree beforehand”

Rom. 8:28-30

If you are in Christ, you are adopted into His family

John 1:12-13; 1 John 3:1

“Jesus loves me, this I know.”



“According *to His pleasure* and will...”

Matt. 7:11; James 1:17

Don't miss this!

What a great word about the Father's character



VS. 6

To the praise of His glorious grace”

Praise = appropriate response to His grace

Ps. 115:1

NOTE: ‘given freely’



VS. 7

If you are in Christ, you are ***redeemed***

“To release upon payment of ransom”

Isaiah 53:4-5



If you are in Christ, you are ***forgiven***

“To cause to stand away”

“To release sins from the sinner.”

“The putting away of sin & the deliverance of the sinner from sin’s power.”

Ps. 130:3; Ps. 103:11-12



VS. 8

“With all wisdom and understanding”

If you are in Christ, God has bestowed upon you
spiritual understanding

NOTE: ‘lavished on us’



VSS. 9-10

If you are in Christ, you are part of God's grand plan!

Yet in spite of its grandeur, He noticed you.

He chose you. He adopted you.

He redeemed you. He forgave you.

And the best is yet to come!

('Mystery' – a truth previously unknown)