

Developing a Biblical Understanding



Evangelism

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- **The Big Picture:**

- **Ephesians 1:3-14**

- **Vs 3** - “blessed us with every spiritual blessing” – a divine plan already determined (as He is God).
- **Vs 4** – “chose us in Him before the foundation” – God has predetermined who will be saved.
- **Vs 5** – “predestined” – the circumstances of our life to be adopted as His sons.
- **Vs 6** – “His grace” – the plan is through grace (no earning merit possible).
- **Vs 7** – “redemption through His blood” (Christ), and “forgiveness” (by grace).

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- **The Big Picture:**

- **Ephesians 1:3-14**

- **Vs 8** - “lavished” (means super-abound, or excel) – He did so in wisdom & insight.
 - **Vs 9** – “made known to us” – prophecy, types, promises of OT
 - **Vs 10** – “summing up all things in Christ” – the completion of the work.
 - **Vs 11** – “obtained an inheritance” and so “according to His purpose” – He planned and carried it out perfectly.
 - **Vs 12** – Our purpose – “the praise of His glory.”
 - **Vs 13** – Here is where evangelism comes in! “After listening to the message of truth” (vs 9 “made known” – the message of truth was predetermined (vs 11) as the means humanly to be drawn (in the power of the Holy Spirit).
 - **Vs 14** – the giving of the Holy Spirit.

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- **The Big Picture:**

- **2 Peter 3:9**

- The “toward you” and the “any” of the context is who? See to whom Peter is writing (2 Pet 1:2; 3:1).
 - This by context, and by comparison with many other texts is a must reference to the elect – those who will come to faith (John 6:39; 10:26-28).

Point: We need to understand the big picture. God has determined the people, the plan, and the means of salvation. It is evangelism that is part of the plan.

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- **The definition of Evangelism:**
Evangelism is the purposeful action, through presentation of the Word of God, to present to others the glories of God and how He has moved in history to provide Salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ, with the goal that hearers may become His followers.

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- **What is our evangelism responsibility?**
 - **The Old Testament:**
 - Israel (Isa 42:6; 49:6)
 - David (1 Chron 16:24)
 - Jonah
 - Abuse of the privilege (Malachi 1:11)
 - The Watchman (Ezek 3:17-21)
 - Israel destroyed (Mat 23:37-38)

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- **What is our evangelism responsibility?**
 - **In the Gospels of New Testament:**
 - God's determination (Mat 16:18)
 - Saving sinners (Luke 19:10)
 - His elect (John 6:37; 10:27-28)
 - His priority (John 3:16; 10:18; 2 Cor 5:21)
 - People are to be lights (Mat 5:14)
 - His disciples as church founders (Mat 4:19; John 15:16; Acts 1:8; Mat 28:19-20).

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- **What is our evangelism responsibility?**
 - **In the Gospels of New Testament - cont:**
 - His disciples integral to the church (John 14:12).
 - The Gospel will prosper & grow the church (Mk 13:31-32; Is 55:10-11).
 - The provision of the Holy Spirit (John 14:16-17; 15:26-27; 16:7-11; Acts 1:8).

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- **What is our evangelism responsibility?**
 - **The great commission:**
 - They are commanded (Mat 28:19-20):
 - The last recorded command (Acts 1:8).
 - “Go” - take purposeful action.
 - “therefore” - as a result of His authority & power (vs. 18).
 - “make disciples” - learners or followers.
 - “of all the nations” - not just Jews (John 10:16).
 - “Baptizing” - ordinance of public commitment.
 - “in the name” - association is now with God.
 - “teaching them to observe” - idea is growth in Christ.