

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Heavenly Places
December 6, 2016
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Ephesians 1.16-23

¹⁶ [I] do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention *of you* in my prayers; ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may **give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.** ¹⁸ ***I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened,*** so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, **what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,** ¹⁹ and **what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.** *These are* in accordance with the working of the strength of His might ²⁰ which He brought about in Christ, when **He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,** ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² **And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,** ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

- God will give us wisdom and revelation to know and understand what He has given us and why. Plus what we are to do and be.
- This is not head knowledge – but is understood through the heart. Holy Spirit will impress upon our heart His truth and give us words to explain it and understand this truth.
- Jesus is seated at the right hand of God in the heavenly places, FAR ABOVE ALL rule and authority, power & dominion and everything that is named or will be named EVER!
- Everything has ALREADY been put into subjection. This is a government term meaning the action of subjecting one to the governmental authority in place. The enemy has already been defeated.
- Jesus, with the church, is head over all things.



Ephesians 1.3

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed us with EVERY spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ**

- We have been blessed – highly favored giving us superior advantage and positioning – with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.
- What are some of the spiritual blessings? Remember we have been blessed with EVERY spiritual blessing. All of these blessings come IN CHRIST.
 - Divine weapons that demolish strongholds, arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against God. (2 Cor 10)
 - The name of Jesus that is above every other name. Our name is intertwined with His name.
 - The blood of Jesus.
 - Power, authority, truth.
 - The goodness, mercy, love and presence of God.
 - Who we are in Christ.
 - Supernatural dimensions of the word of God and speaking His word which is alive and active and able to accomplish.

Ephesians 2.5-6

⁵ even when we were dead in our transgressions, **made us alive together with Christ** (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and **raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus**

- We are dead to sin and alive to God.
- Raised up with Jesus Christ.
- Seated WITH Christ in the heavenly places.
- What are the heavenly places? It is the realm of celestial beings and spiritual conflict. We are seated far above all of the spiritual conflict.

Ephesians 3.9-11

⁹ and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things; ¹⁰ **so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.** ¹¹ **This was in accordance with the eternal purpose** which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord

- Our being seated in the heavenly places in Christ far above all else is a mystery in the natural and cannot be understood by the intellect. It is spiritually discerned.
- Part of the purpose of our positioning is that the manifold wisdom of God will be made known through the church to rulers and authorities in heavenly places.
- This is part of God's eternal purpose. Unto Full Stature says we have to understand God's eternal purposes to step into full stature or maturity. To see what God is doing in the big picture. God-centered, not self-centered.
- God has set eternity in our hearts so we can connect to and be part of His eternal purposes. This is only spiritually discerned.



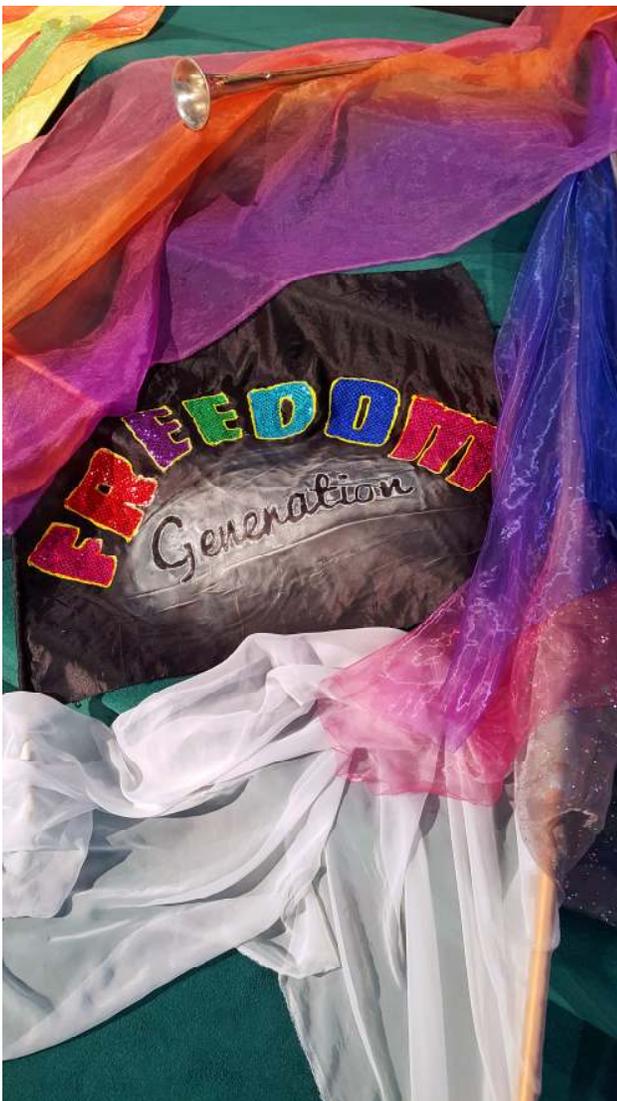
Think about the positioning of where God has seated us.

- In the heavenly places (the realm of celestial beings and spiritual conflict) with Christ Jesus but FAR ABOVE all that conflict. Our positioning has superior advantage.
- In His presence.
- Not in or tied to earthly timing.
- Physical laws that govern the earth are not part of this place. We know through science that the forces of gravity are dramatically changed and the atmosphere contains different gases. The point being – do not think naturally but supernaturally by the revelation of Holy Spirit. Take off limitations.
- In this heavenly place we are blessed with EVERY spiritual blessing.
- Supernaturally we are in two places at the same time. Here in our place in the earth and seated in Christ in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6.12

For our **struggle** is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the **heavenly places**.

- KJV uses the word "wrestle" instead of struggle. We wrestle not against flesh and blood.
- The Greek meaning of the word wrestle is; to vibrate, wrestle. This word comes from a root word that means to throw or let go of a thing without caring where it falls.
 - Vibration is a sound.
 - We are wrestling with the sounds or the talk, the rhetoric, the lies of powers and principalities, forces of spiritual wickedness.
 - God's word is the supreme authority. When we speak the Rhema or NOW prophetic word – the Truth – the lies and all that comes with the lies of the devil are broken.
 - This is a war of words. The devil is always weaving a tale of lies to entangle and control the world and the world systems.
 - The lies are birthed out of powers of darkness and wickedness. The lies are used to control and oppress people groups, nations, cities, the land and the earth itself to try and rob God of His eternal purposes.
 - But the enemy has been defeated.



Colossians 2.15

When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

2 Corinthians 2.14-17 The Message

¹⁴⁻¹⁶ In the Messiah, in Christ, **God leads us from place to place in one perpetual victory parade. Through us, he brings knowledge of Christ.** Everywhere we go, people breathe in the exquisite fragrance. Because of Christ, we give off a sweet scent rising to God, which is recognized by those on the way of salvation—an aroma redolent with life. But those on the way to destruction treat us more like the stench from a rotting corpse.

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ This is a terrific responsibility. Is anyone competent to take it on? No—but at least we don't take God's Word, water it down, and then take it to the streets to sell it cheap. **We stand in Christ's presence when we speak; God looks us in the face. We get what we say straight from God** and say it as honestly as we can.

- The word of Christ in our heart and in our mouth is straight from God.
- It is the word that brings life and fullness.

Romans 10.8

But what does it say? **"THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART"**—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching

- Speak the word of life, the governing word, from the place of being seated in Christ.

Hebrews 10.12-13

¹² but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, ¹³ **waiting from that time onward UNTIL HIS ENEMIES BE MADE A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET.**

- This is accomplished by those of the Order of Melchizedek, not the Aaronic order. That is us.
- This is accomplished from the position of seated far above all evil and wickedness in the heavenly places.

Romans 16.19-20

¹⁹ For the report of your obedience has reached to all; therefore I am rejoicing over you, but I want you to **be wise in what is good and innocent in what is evil.** ²⁰ **The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.** The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.

- We speak the Word
- Satan becomes the footstool under Jesus' feet
- Sin and evil started with a word when Lucifer said, "I will". (Isa 14.13)
- The governing word of God brings life as God would have it.

