

## Every SEvery Spiritual Blessing Ephesians 1:3-4

Ephesians 1:3-2:10 (A section on the incredible nature of God's grace)

Ephesians 1:3-14 – Paul praising God for every blessing that we have in Christ.

Ephesians 1:15-2:10 – Paul praying that we might grasp the fullness of these blessings.

“As Paul muses on the fathomless Fountain of grace, his soul is stirred to its depths, and we see him sally forth... like some long-winded racehorse, impatient of every intervening barrier and careering onward at full speed beyond the middle of the chapter ere he can check his impetuous pace and draw bridle.”

**E.K. Simpson**

The more that you are amazed by the incredible riches of the grace of God towards undeserving sinners like you and me, the more eager and willing you will be to extend it to one another as believers.

How amazed are you by the enormity of God's grace in your life?

Pray that God might reveal to you how amazing His grace is towards you so that you might learn to be incredibly gracious to each other.

### I. **The Amazing Measure of God's Grace - 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...”

**Ephesians 1:3**

- Amazing Grace: God comes to us as a Father in Christ

“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of His glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in you inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith – that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled to all the fullness of God.”

**Ephesians 3:14-19**

“It is more reverent and more accurate to signify God from the Son and call Him Father, than to name Him from His works only and call Him Unoriginate (eternally self-existent).”

**Athanasius, (*Against the Arians*, 1.34)**

“We cannot come to a true knowledge of who God is in himself simply by looking at him as Creator. We must listen to how he has revealed himself — and he has revealed himself in his Son. Through the Son, we see behind creation into the eternal and essential identity of God. Through *the Son* we see a God we never could have imagined: a God who is a *Father*.”

**Michael Reeves**

- **Amazing Grace: God treats us with extravagant generosity in Christ**

“who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.”

“In the Son of God, we do not see a haughty God, reluctant to be kind. We see one who comes in saving grace while we were still sinners. In him we see a glory so different from our needy and selfish applause-seeking. We see a God of superabundant self-giving. We see a God unspotted in every way: a fountain of overflowing goodness. In him — and in him alone — we see a God who is beautiful, who wins our hearts.”

**Michael Reeves**

“Look for Christ and you will find Him, and with Him, everything else thrown in.”

**C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity***

## II. **The Amazing Moment of God’s Grace - Ephesians 1:4**

“even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him.”

**Ephesians 1:4**

- Amazing Grace: God chose us on the merits of Christ and not of anything in us.  
“Even as He chose us in Him...” (1:4)

“Ultimately, we’re redeemed not because of our worthiness but because of the worthiness of Christ. God is gracious to me in order to reward One who does deserve a reward—His only begotten Son.”

R.C. Sproul

- Amazing Grace: God chose us long before we ever chose Him.

“Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world...” (1:4)

“Were I to believe that my future is dependent upon myself and my decisions I would tremble in fear; but I thank God that I know that I am in His hand, and that ‘He who has begun a good work’ in me will go on with the work. In spite of myself, and what I was and am, the Lord will not let me go; He will not ‘His purpose forego.’”

“It is because I know that before time began, before the foundation of the world, He looked at me and saw me and selected me, and in His mind gave me to Christ—it is because I know that, that with the Apostle Paul I am able to say, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord’ (Romans 8:38–39).” D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

- **Amazing Grace: God chose us not because we were holy and blameless but so that we would become holy and blameless... in Him.**

“Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and blameless before Him.” (1:4)

“God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise, God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong, God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.”

1 Corinthians 1:27-29

“I believe the doctrine of election, because I am quite certain that, if God had not chosen me, I should never have chosen Him; and I am sure He chose me before I was born, or else He never would have chosen me afterwards; and He must have elected me for reasons unknown to me, for I never could find in myself why He should have looked upon me with special love. So I am forced to accept that great Biblical doctrine.” C.H. Spurgeon

It is crucial that we don’t say that God chose us because he looked down through time and saw us choosing or believing in Him. God didn’t see anything good in us.

Paul’s argument is this: God chose us before time because He knew if He didn’t choose us, we would never choose Him. That’s why it is the praise of the glory of His grace.

This is amazing grace!  
Our goal in this is not our ability to work it all out in our minds.  
It is to wonder and worship.  
Rebellious sinners are made righteous sons.  
In Christ.

Challenge: Spend much time thinking about how amazing it is that God made you His own son or daughter at His expense and has opened up every benefit of heaven to you even though you and I deserve judgment.

Let this amazement shape your life. God has loved you when you didn't love Him. God gave you what you could never give him. God moved everything you needed towards you in Christ when you were far from pleasing or honoring to Him. All the glory goes to Him. How then shall we treat one another?