

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

---

TRUE

*Identity*

# Ephesians 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus: <sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

# Ephesians 1:1-14

who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,<sup>4</sup> even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love<sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ,

# Ephesians 1:1-14

according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup> which he lavished upon us,

# Ephesians 1:1-14

in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In him we have obtained an inheritance,

# Ephesians 1:1-14

having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,  
<sup>12</sup> so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you heard the word of truth,

# Ephesians 1:1-14

the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

# True Identity

I have come to realize that hundreds of issues find their resolve if we properly understand the gospel [who God is, what He has done for us and who that makes us to be].

# Martin Luther

“I must take counsel of the gospel. I must hearken to the gospel, which teaches me, not what I ought to do, (for that is the proper office of the law,) but what Jesus Christ the Son of God has done for me:

# Martin Luther

to wit, that He suffered and died to deliver me from sin and death. The gospel wills me to receive this, and to believe it. And this is the truth of the gospel. It is also the principal article of all Christian doctrine, wherein the knowledge of all godliness consists.

# Martin Luther

Most necessary it is, therefore, that we should know this article well, teach it unto others, and beat it into our heads continually.”

# True Identity

The gospel is the good news that sinners can be saved. It is the power of God unto salvation for everyone who believes [Romans 1:16]. It is the good news that Christ came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost [1 Timothy 1:15].

# True Identity

The gospel is the power of God that saves us *from* God's wrath/the penalty of our sin **AND** it works to save us *to* a Savior and His people.

# Ephesians 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus: <sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

# Ephesians 1:1-14

who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,<sup>4</sup> even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love<sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ,

# Ephesians 1:1-14

according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup> which he lavished upon us,

# Ephesians 1:1-14

in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>  
In him we have obtained an inheritance,

# Ephesians 1:1-14

having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,  
<sup>12</sup> so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you heard the word of truth,

# Ephesians 1:1-14

the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

# True Identity

Because of God's great love, He will choose and adopt a people that will be holy and blameless before Him that will testify to His glorious grace.

# True Identity

Union with Christ is a spiritual reality whereby we as believers are joined to our Lord such that what is true of him becomes true of us.