

This lesson is based largely on a lesson created by J. Hampton Keithley III Th. M [Soteriology - The Doctrine of Salvation](#).

We continue with our “Things that matter most” series by a review of a review of the wonderful position and possessions of every believer. First an explanation of “position.” When we speak of a position in terms of a believer in Christ we are referring to a permanent status we enjoy as a member of the family of God. “Possessions” are just that – blessing that we possess as God’s child.

When anyone accepts Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour they are instantaneously enriched with every spiritual blessing in Christ (Eph. 1:3) and declared to be complete in Christ (Col. 2:10). In fact, the Apostle Paul refers to these blessings as “the unfathomable riches of Christ” in Ephesians 3:8. “Unfathomable” is the Greek *anexichniastos* which means “past finding out, unsearchable, not to be tracked out.” The idea is that the believer’s blessings in Christ are “too deep to be measured.”

Enriched with Every Spiritual Blessing

How we praise God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we belong to Christ. Eph 1:3, KJV.

Complete in Christ

Our salvation involves more than a ticket to heaven. We studied in our previous lesson that we are a new species – not only that but we receive every spiritual blessing from heaven because of our relationship to Christ.

and you are complete through your union with Christ. He is the Lord over every ruler and authority in the universe. Col 2:10, KJV.

Complete in that we are completely filled up in these blessings. Imagine a child in a candy store being given permission to load up with all the candy he wants. I can imagine every pocket filled and both hands loaded with these tasty treats. Our word here *pleroo* means that and much more – we have every spiritual pocket filled to overflowing with all that we need to live a complete, fulfilled life in Him.

Blessings past Full Discovery.

Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; Eph 3:8, KJV.

The original for “unsearchable” reminds me of the oceans. We will never completely discover all the species all the knowledge within the oceans – neither will we ever plumb the depths of our riches in Christ. Let’s hurry along and take a look at 34 of these blessings:

1. We are in the eternal plan of God.

For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. We are predetermined to be like the Lord Himself – He was the firstborn among many brethren is rich in family imagery.

Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God. 1 Thess 1:4.

We are chosen by God.

2. We are reconciled by God.

And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 2 Cor 5:18, 19.

No longer are we estranged from God. No longer are we enemies of God – we are brought together by Him.

3. We are redeemed by God.

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins. Col 1:14.

The slave market of sin comes to mind here. Remember the account of Hosea and his wife?

4. No condemnation.

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Rom 8:1. See also [Rom 8:34](#); [1 Cor 11:32](#); [John 3:18](#). Jesus Christ was judged for our sins – we can no longer be condemned.

5. The justice of God is satisfied Jesus Christ is our propitiation.

Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: ²⁵Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; ²⁶To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. Rom 3:24 - 26.

I like to use the illustration of the heat shield that is used to protect the shuttle from burning up during reentry into earth's atmosphere. The ceramic bricks on the shuttle take the heat, as it were and protect the shuttle. Jesus has taken the heat of God's justice and is not only just (righteous) but becomes the justifier (the one through whom believers are declared righteous).

6. All Sins Removed by His Efficacious Blood.

²⁴Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. 1 Pet 2:24.

Peter uses a quote from [Isa 53:5](#). The healing is not physical but spiritual healing where we were once sick in our sins but now are healed. If we look at the imagery from the original we must imagine Isaac being lifted up on the altar by Abraham for sacrifice. Jesus lifted up our sins on the cross in His body

²⁵**Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.** Rom 4:25.

Jesus died in our place but the wonderful news is that He is raised from the dead and so we receive justification – are declared righteous.

9. Children of God.

¹²**But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:** John 1:12.

The word for power is the *right* or *authority* to become the sons of God.

²³**Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.** 1 Pet 1:23.

The implication here is that our heritage is no longer in Adam but in Christ. The word seed is just that – the act of procreation. We have been procreated by God Himself – the power of the preached word of God is in view here – the result is that we are born again as spiritual children of God.

10. Adopted (placed as adult sons)

¹⁵**For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.** Rom 8:15.

There are several words used to depict children. This word *huios* depicts a son who is approved by the father and has been placed in a position as an adult son – a position of great value in the Roman world. If a young man failed to achieve this status he was destined for a life of servitude and low rank. We have, by this implication, been placed in a position of high rank in the Father's eye and are in a position to receive great blessings from His hand. The cry "Abba, Father" is equivalent to our expression "Dad" or "Daddy."

14. Made Nigh.

But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:13.

The picture here is from the Jewish temple where the gentiles were cordoned off and not able to enjoy the full blessings of temple worship (read [Eph 2:11-29](#)). Now the wall has been broken down and all the blessings are available to all believers. Paul takes the application of this wall even further – both the Jews and the Gentiles are brought near to God in worship by the blood of Christ (the blood of Christ gives further emphasis to temple worship).

15. Delivered From the Powers of Darkness.

For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, Colossians 1:13.

And when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, ¹⁴ having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of

the way, having nailed it to the cross. ¹⁵ When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him. Colossians 2:13-15.

We can refer to Eph 2:1 - 3 on this. We were living under the curse – dead in our sins but it goes further than that – we had a warrant out on us. All these indictments were canceled – nailed to the cross – *and* the power that Satan had over us (again, see Eph 2:1 - 3) has been completely vanquished. When world war 1 and 2 were finished the Axis were completely rendered ineffective as a warring nation. Satan, who is at war with God over the souls of men has been completely vanquished. The public display referred to in our passage refers to the victory return of a general and his army as he marches through the streets of Rome with the prisoners who are completely defeated.

16. Translated Into the Kingdom.

For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, Colossians 1:13.

Citizenship in the United States is highly valued by many of the oppressed in the world. An example of this is Cuba. How many thousands have taken that 90 mile boat ride just to get out of Cuba and to become a citizen of the US.? We take that “boat ride” from the kingdom of Satan to the kingdom of His beloved Son – we become citizens of Heaven.

21. Chosen Generation, A Holy Nation, and A People of God’s Own Possession.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; Peter 2:9.

who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds. Titus 2:14.

The Hebrew was no more than a slave of Pharaoh in Egypt. After crossing the Red Sea they became a chosen race, a possession of God.

22. Having Access to God.

Since therefore, brethren, we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh Hebrews 10:19-20.

This will be my final point. You will notice that I have skipped over some. There are 34 in all and I invite you to check them all at [Soteriology - The Doctrine of Salvation](#).

This is a most precious of Position and Possessions of the believer. Without Christ we are alone – like an abandoned child. In Christ we have access to the very throne room of our Heavenly Father.