

006 - An Inheritance Part 2 - Ephesians 1:11-14 - 2014-06-29

Call to Worship: Isaiah 14:24

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 46:8-13

Sermon: "An Inheritance - Part 2" Ephesians 1:11-14

Benediction: Romans 8:31

REVIEW

The blessing of an inheritance---what is meant by an inheritance

A share or part or portion given to us for which we have been chosen by lot.

The blessing of an inheritance---what the inheritance is; what we inherit

In short, since we are with God in Christ, and God owns all things, we have a share in all things

Why do we inherit it?

I. We have obtained an inheritance for the same reason, ultimately, as everything else: it was done for us because we were predestined to it according to the purpose of God

1. it was the purpose of God
2. so he predestined us to it
3. and so we have obtained it

II. How can we be sure this is why? This is the reason why everything happens!
illus:

Q: Daddy, why is the sky blue? A: because God made it blue

Q: Why did He make it blue? A: because He predestined it to be blue

Q: Why did He predestine it to be blue? A: because it is His will for it to be blue

1. all things that happen are God's will to happen
2. God counsels only with Himself as to what will be done in all things
3. so he works all things according to the counsel of His will

APP:

There is a use of the term "God's will" that is not present in the scriptures.

IV. By what means we inherit it - faith

V. For what purpose we inherit it - the praise of His glory

Ephesians 1:11-14 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, (12) that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. (13) In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, (14) who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Bayne:

[not a quote] The general truth that God works all things according to the counsel of His will tells us the more specific truth that he works this according to it, also.

Calvin:

In no respect, therefore, are men admitted to share in this praise, as if they brought anything of their own. God looks at nothing out of himself to move him to elect them

being predestined

God predestined us
according to the purpose of

Him who works all things

Hodge:

That control, however, is exercised in accordance with the nature of his creatures, so that no violence is done to the constitution which he has given them.

according to the counsel

Poole:

He acts wisely as well as freely
not by deliberation, which falls beneath his infinite perfection

Gill:

in a wise and prudent manner, in the best way that can be devised

of His will

Hodge:

neither suggested by others, nor determined by anything out of himself

that we who first trusted

Hawker:

In relation to our trust and belief, it should be always carefully remembered, that these acts of ours, are not the cause of our safety and blessedness, but the effect.

Goodwin:

“all things”

natural, moral, contingent, wills of men

Philippians 3:20-21 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, (21) who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

God can do all things, but he only does what He wills

e.g. He could raise up out of the stones sons for Abraham

three principles of God's working all things whatsoever he works

1. *works*: an omnipotent power, as the thing that executeth and performeth all; he is said to work, and work effectually, so the word signifieth

-God hath an effectual hand in all things: natural, moral, contingent, wills of men

-God can do all things, but he only does what He wills

e.g. He could raise up out of the stones sons for Abraham, but He did not

-whatsoever God will do, that he doth effectually

2. *counsel*: his wisdom, as that which giveth direction both to will and power

-a certain judgment of what is best to do; all that he doth is with the greatest ripeness of judgment, with the highest wisdom

-when he hath pitched his love upon these and these men, then counsel is set a-work indeed, to contrive all ways to shew love to them . . . to manifest the glory of his grace

3. *counsel of his will*: his will and the sovereignty of it, that which giveth the command for a powerful execution

-he doth not go forth of himself for counsel; Romans 11:34 “Who hath been his counsellor?”

-His will is not determined in counsel; all is determined by His will; “He hath mercy on whom he will. and Revelation 4:11 “By thy will all things were created.”

-There is no reason why thou shouldst believe, and another no . . . but his will.

page in Goodwin:

<http://www.archive.org/stream/worksofthomasgoo01good#page/216/mode/1up>