

### 3. SAINTS ARE ENRICHED IN CHRIST JESUS: 1 Corinthians 1:4-7

by Brett Baggett on Sunday, July 18th, 2021

**BIG IDEA:** In Christ, your past life is paid for, your present life is provided for, and your future life is promised, all by the grace of God!

#### I. IN CHRIST, *YOUR PAST LIFE IS PAID FOR* BY THE GRACE OF GOD (v. 4)

**1 Corinthians 1:4** “I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus,”

- **Q.** What does it mean to have been given grace? Look what Paul says. “...In Christ Jesus.” There’s the key. It means to be united to Christ.
- **Romans 8:1** “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”
- **HENRY:** “Those who are united to [Christ] by faith... God loves them, bears them hearty good-will, and bestows on them his fatherly smiles and blessings.”
- **God’s grace erases your guilt!**
- **But it is not as though God overlooks sin or excuses it.**
- **Jesus, who is God, had to become a man and ultimately die the death that sinners deserve, being CONDEMNED BY GOD FOR SIN!** Why did Christ do that? So that all who are united to Him by faith could live forever under the banner that reads “No condemnation.”

**CHILDREN:** Imagine there was a big white board up here and God wrote every one of your sins down on it—everything bad you had ever done! Wouldn’t you want to erase everything off of that board so you would not be punished for the wrong you had done? What the word “Grace” means, boys and girls, is that Jesus died the death you deserve so that He could forever wipe that white board clean, and erase all of your sins!

- **Q.** What sins can you not seem to forget, believer?
- **By grace, saint, Christ swallowed up your old self which was drowning in sin, and then spit you out on dry ground now clothed in His righteousness!**
- **If you have been given grace, your past life, your old self marked by sin & bound for hell, has been paid for & ransomed from the pit!**
- **In fact, your past, present, and future sins are pardoned for Christ’s sake!**  
**YOU KNOW LIVE UNDER THE BANNER WHICH READS, “NO CONDEMNATION!”**

**TRANSITION:** But God does not only pay for our past life marked of sin, He also provides richly for our present life by His grace!

#### II. IN CHRIST, *YOUR PRESENT LIFE IS PROVIDED FOR* BY THE GRACE OF GOD (v. 5-7a)

**1 Corinthians 1:5-7a** “5 that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— 6 even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—7a so that you are not lacking in any gift,”

##### I) As a saint, you are *RICHLY PROVIDED FOR* in every way!

**5a** “that in every way you were enriched in him”

- **1 Samuel 2:7** “The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low and he exalts.”
- **2 Corinthians 8:9** “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.”
- **Though you and I deserve to have what little we possess taken from us, in Christ, God *enriches* us in every way so that we do not lack what we need for life and godliness!**
- **The Lord in His grace has filled your spiritual wallet with everything you need in order to buy what leads to glorifying and enjoying Him!**

##### II) As a saint, you are enriched in all *SPEECH* to speak the truth, especially the gospel! (v. 5b)

**5b** “in all speech”

- **Isaiah 51:16** “And I have put my words in your mouth and covered you in the shadow of my hand...”
- **Jeremiah 1:9** “Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the Lord said to me, ‘Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.’”
- **Acts 2:17** “And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, & your sons & your daughters shall prophesy...”
- **Matthew 10:17-19** “Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour.”
- **John 14:26** “...the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and *bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.*”
- **Family Worship:** Husbands; Fathers; Single mothers; Mothers whose husbands are not in Christ.
- **In the home, during the day:** Mothers.
- **In Community and fellowship with other believers:** all of you in Christ (Col. 3:16).
- **With your family and neighbors; bosses; employees; the mundane aspects of life; at the abortion mill.**

##### III) As a saint, you are enriched in all *KNOWLEDGE* to understand the gospel! (v. 5c-6)

**5c-6** “and in all knowledge—even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among (*in*) you—”

- **Ephesians 1:9-10** “9 [God made] known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.”

- **If you are in Christ, you have been blessed with the revelation of the mystery of God’s will!**

- **You know why everything exists!** God’s glory;
- **You know why things are not as they should be!** Sin;
- **You know how God has set out to redeem sinners!** The Lord Jesus Christ and His work;
- **You know how sinners are reconciled to God!** God the Holy Spirit giving the gift of faith in Christ;
- **You know how you are to live!** Obeying the commands of God;
- **You know why you exist**—to glorify Him and enjoy Him forever!

**CHILDREN:** If your faith is in Jesus Christ, and you believe what you hear and read in the Bible, you have more knowledge than kings!

**Q.** Have you fallen into the trap of the enemy, thinking “I am just simple and don’t know much”? You may have a great deal you need to grow in...but

## **IV) As a saint, you are enriched with EVERY GIFT YOU NEED to build up the body of Christ! (v. 7a)**

**7a** “so that you are not lacking in any gift,”

- **1 Peter 4:10-11** “As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”
- **Ephesians 4:16** “the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”
- **Romans 12:6** “Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.”

**CHILDREN:** God gives at least one spiritual gift to every Saint, so that we may all use what God has given us to serve one another! A Spiritual gift is something God, by His grace, has made you good at. In life, you will need to figure out how God has gifted you so you can serve Him & His church!

**Q.** How has God gifted you, beloved?

**TRANSITION:** But, wait, there’s more! God does not only pay for our past life marked of sin, and not only does He provide richly for our present life, He also promises our future life by His grace!

## **III. IN CHRIST, YOUR FUTURE LIFE IS PROMISED BY THE GRACE OF GOD (v. 7b)**

**1 Corinthians 1:7b** “as you wait (*eagerly*) for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ,”

- **1 Peter 1:13** “Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

**Q.** What is this promise of Christ’s second coming? Why should eagerly wait for it?

- **Hebrews 9:28** “so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.”
- **HENRY:** “the more confirmed we are in the Christian faith the more firm is our belief of our Lord's second coming, and the more earnest our expectation of it.”
- **CHILDREN:** Did you know Jesus is going to come back to the earth? When He does, He is going to judge those who do not trust in Him and then chase all sad things away and make His people happy with Him forever! *O God give these children the grace to repent & believe!*
- **The second coming of Christ is that bright light at the end of the tunnel** that will finally drive away all darkness both within us and without!
- **The train of God’s future grace is chugging away and headed straight for you**, saint, and you are lovingly tied to the tracks!

- **William Guthrie (1620-1665), an old Scottish preacher, said,** “[Christ] excludes none but those who exclude themselves. And so the promises are held out to all. . . . God offers His promises freely to all that will take them.”