

(Ephesians 1:1-14)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

Ephesians 1:7 (NKJV)

⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

THE TEXT IN CONTEXT



- Paul was a prisoner at the time he wrote this letter (Eph. 3:1; 4:1; 6:20).
- Ephesians is Paul's essay on the church belonging to Jesus Christ.
- ◆ The word “**church**” occurs nine times in the letter (1:22; 3:10,21; 5:23,24,25,27, 29,32).
- ◆ The term “**body**” (*referring to the church*) occurs nine more times (1:23; 2:16; 3:6; 4:4, 12, 16 (twice); 5:23, 30).

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

SYLLABUS *of The* CHURCH *of* CHRIST



- Christ - the head of it - 1:22; 5:23.
- The fullness of Christ, 1:22, 23.
- God's manifold wisdom - 3:10.
- God is glorified in it - 3:21.
- There is one body (*church*) - 4:4.
- Christ loves her - 5:23.
- Christ saves her - 5:23.
- Christ gave himself for her, 5:25.
- To be holy & without blemish, 5:27.
- It shall be presented to Christ - 5:27.
- Beloved bride of Christ, 5:31, 32.

EPHESIANS 1:3-14 (NKJV)

³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,

⁴ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵ having

predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus

Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

EPHESIANS 1:3-14 (NKJV)

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace ⁸ which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, ⁹ having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰ that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.

EPHESIANS 1:3-14 (NKJV)

¹¹ 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.

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

All Spiritual Blessings Are In Christ

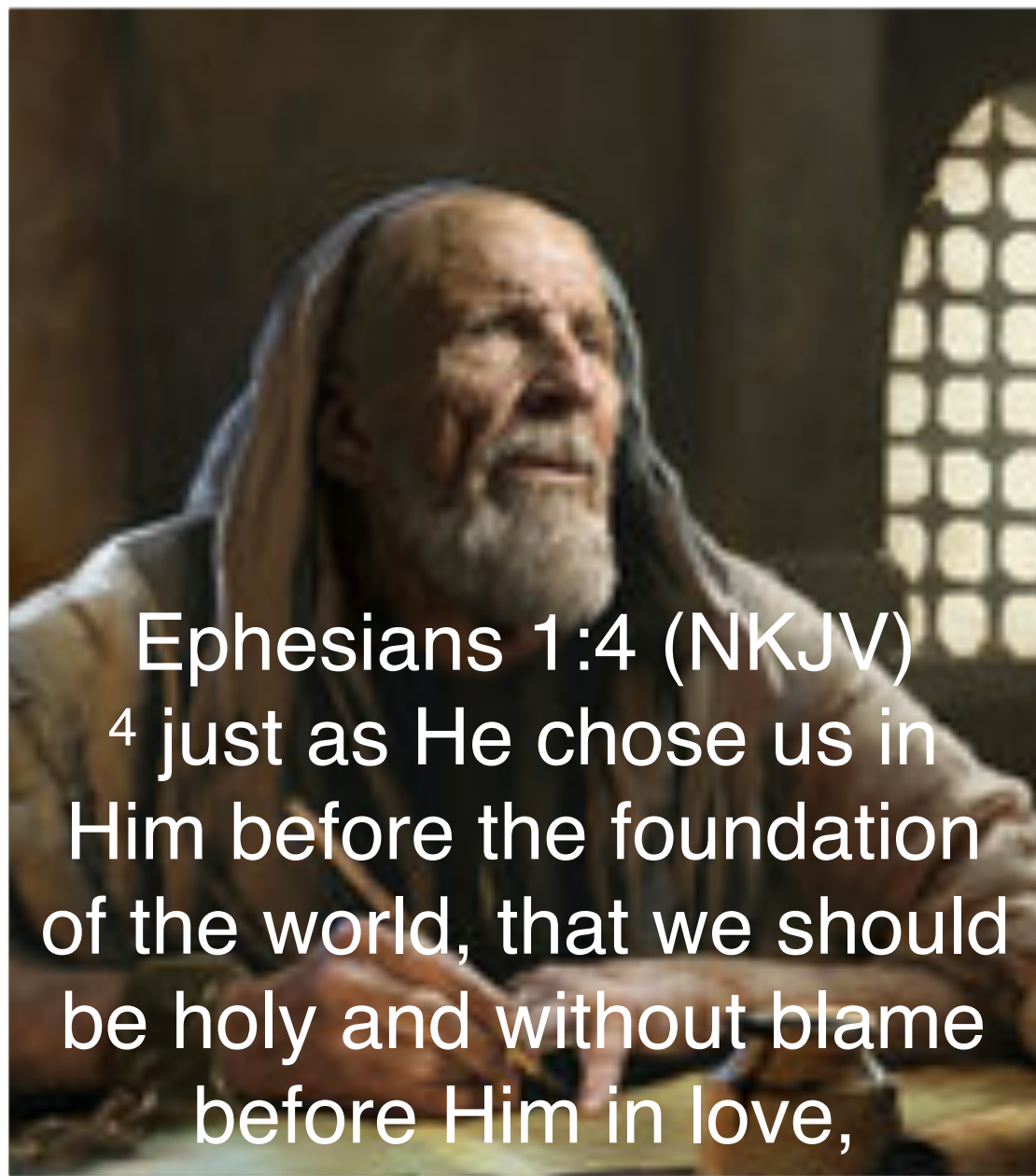


Ephesians 1:1-3 (NKJV)

¹ Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus: ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

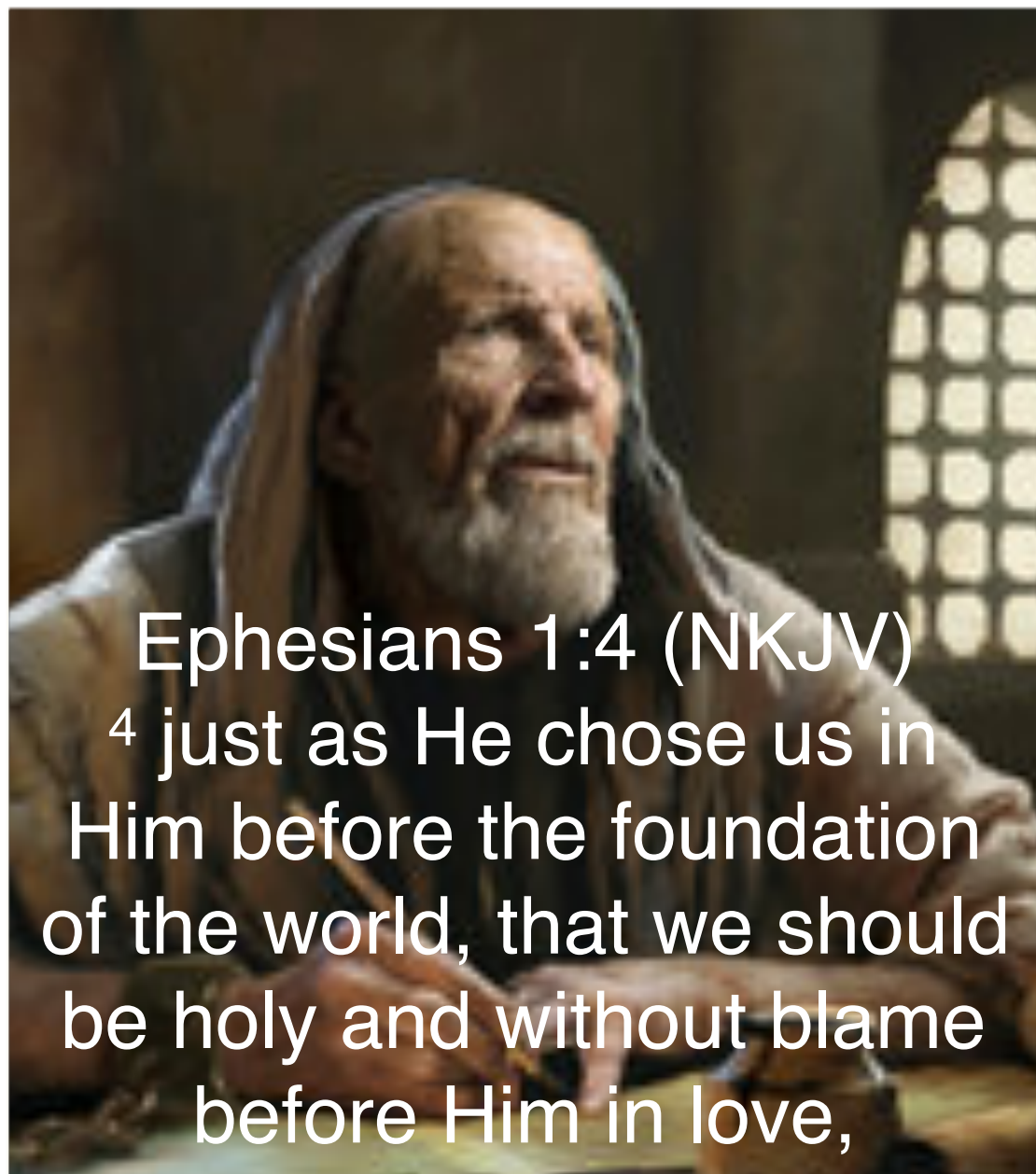
Chosen In Christ



- The “**elect**” are those “**in Christ**” – **The chosen one is Jesus** – (Isaiah 42:1; 1 Pet 2:4) -
- Election in Christ must be understood as the election of God's people, thus corporate in nature. – (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9)
- All who choose by faith to be baptized into Christ will be counted among the chosen – (Rom. 6:3-6; 16,17; Gal. 3:26,27; 1 Cor. 12:13)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

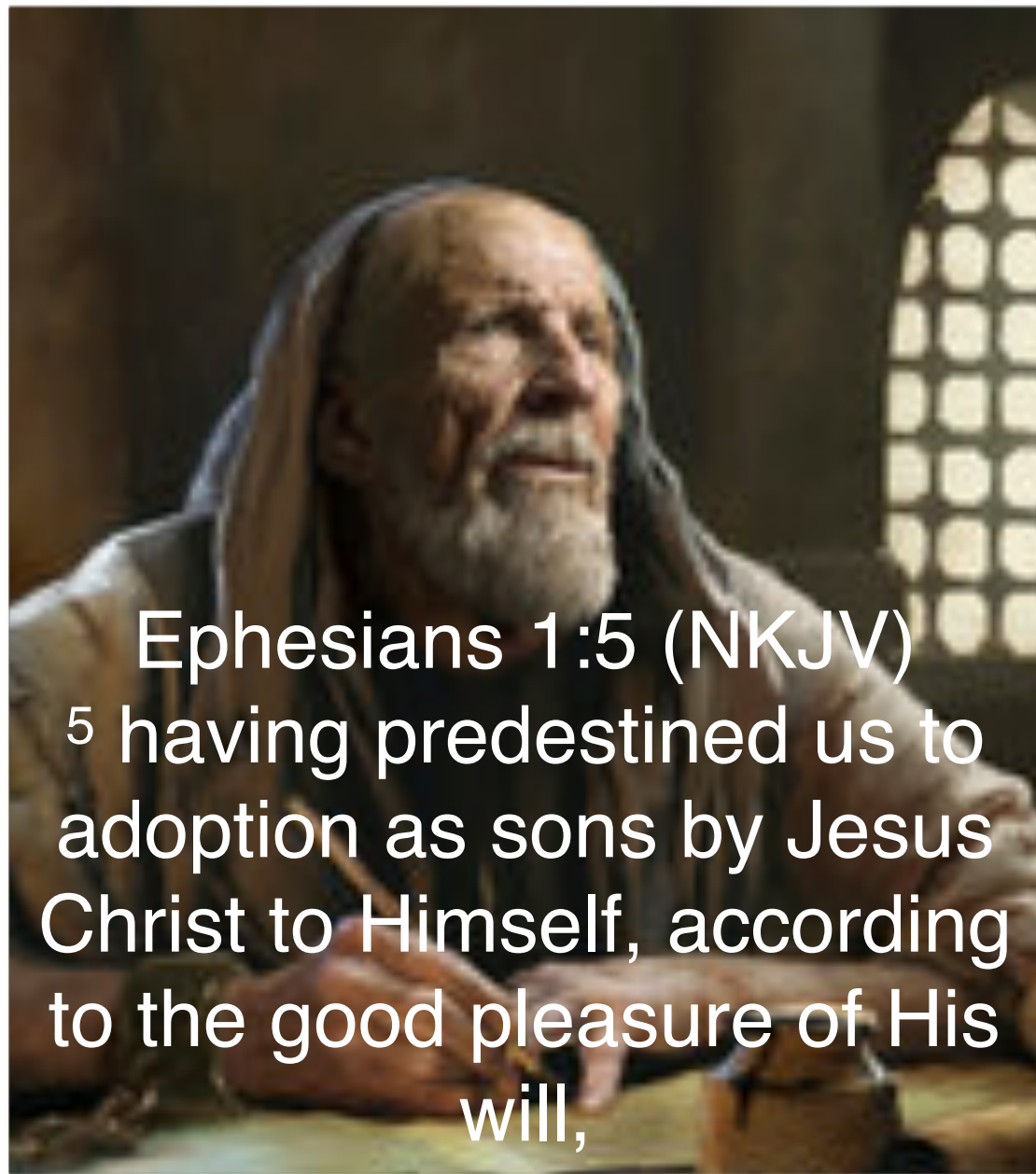
Chosen In Christ



- Those of whom Paul spoke were ALL in the sphere chosen “*Before the foundation of the world,*” i.e. IN HIM – (cf. 2 Tim. 1:9; 1 Pet. 1:18-21)
- God predetermined the **status, character & condition** of the **believer in Christ** - (Cf. Mat 5:3-10; Rom 12:1, 2; 2 Cor 6:17,18; 7:1; 1 Thes 5:21-24; Tit 2:11,12; 1 Pet 1:15,16; 1 John 1:7; Rev 2:10; 1 Cor 13:1-8; Gal 5:6; 1 Cor 16:14).

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

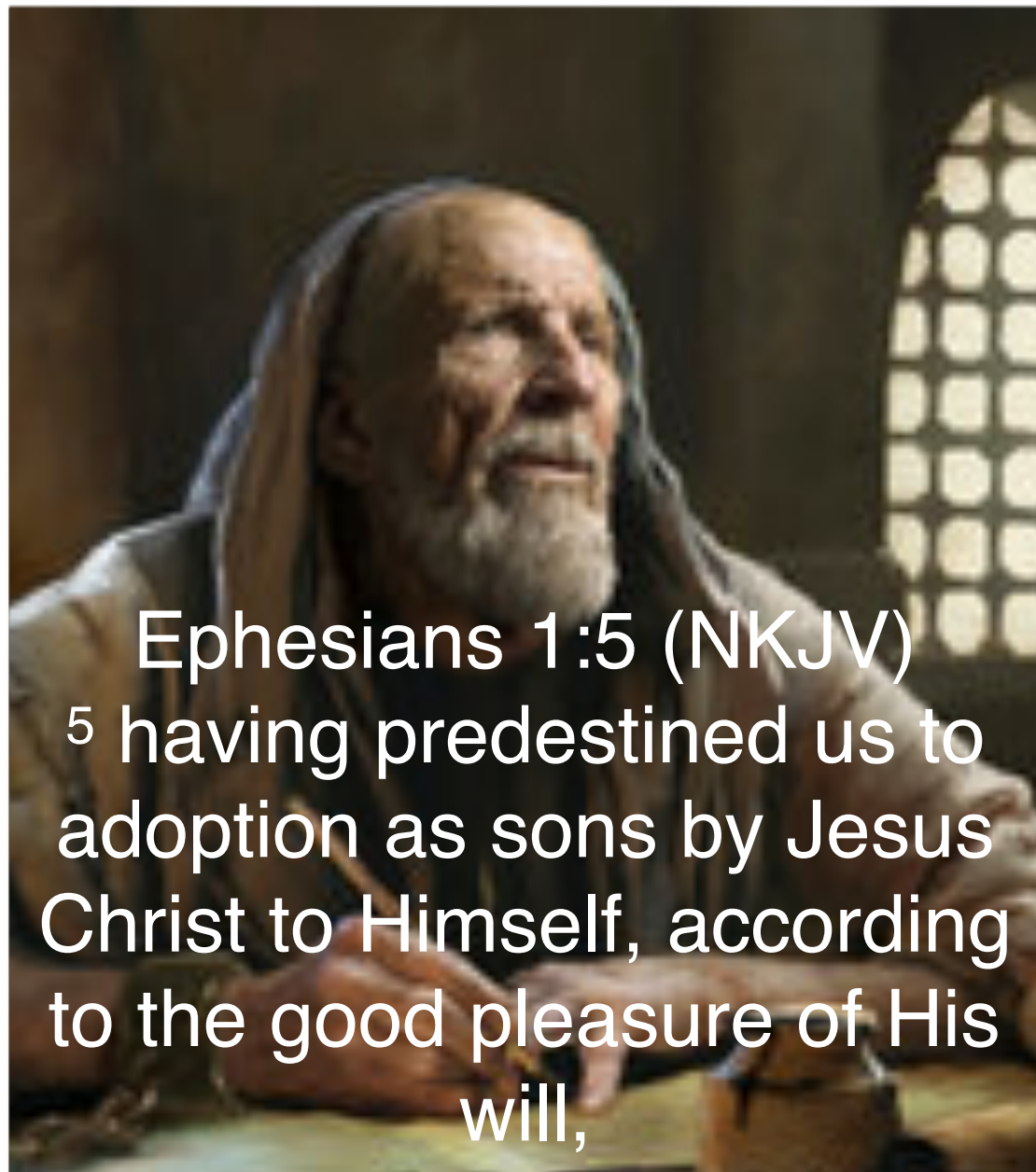
Adopted In Christ



- God predetermined that all who believed in Christ would be counted among His children — (*1:1, 10; 3:11; Ac 19:1-10; John 3:3-5; Gal 3:26-29; 1 Pet 1:22, 23*)
- All of this is accomplished “*according to the good pleasure of His (God's) will,*” - (*cf. Eph 1:9; Phil 2:13; 2 Thes 1:11*).

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

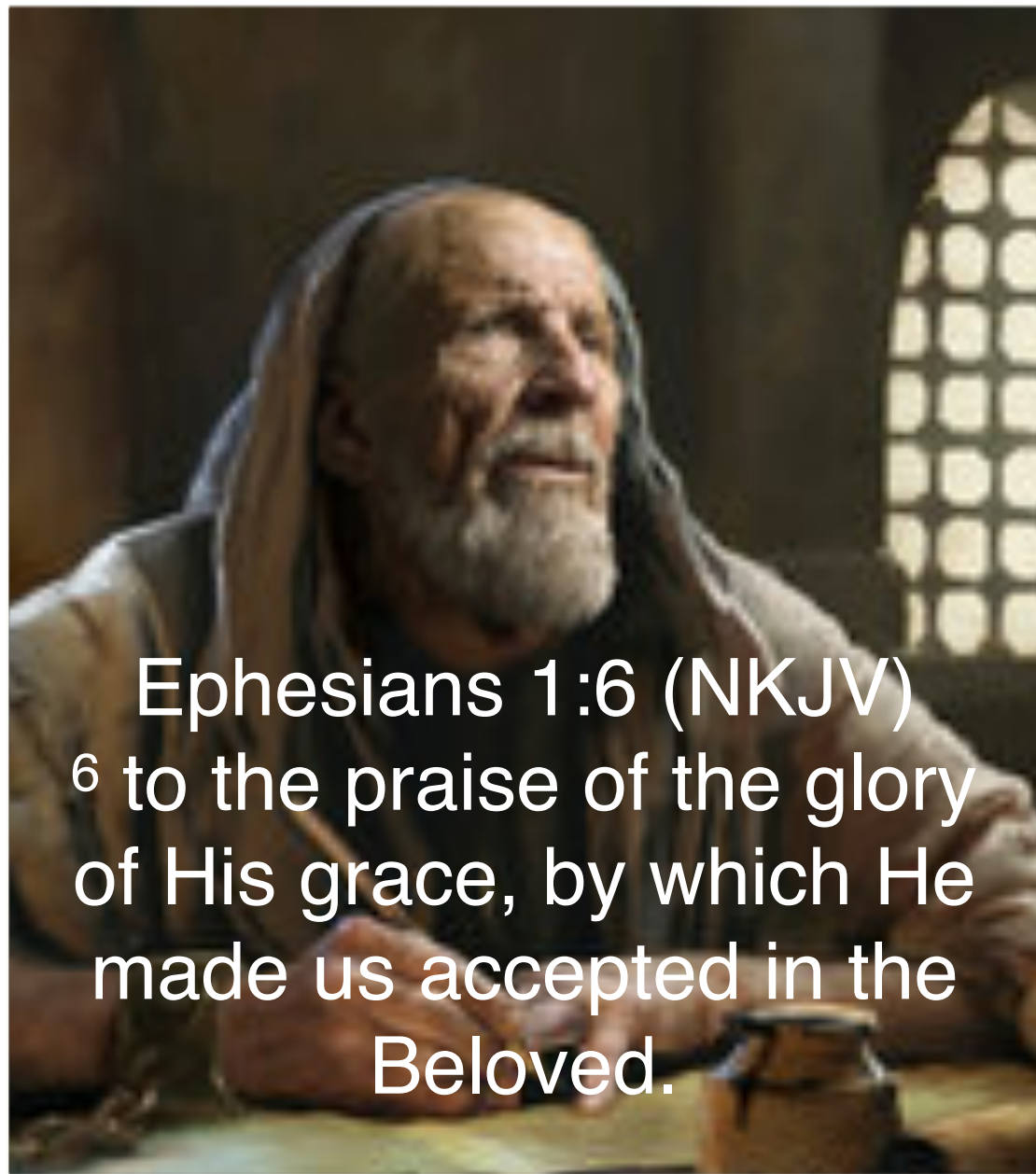
Adopted In Christ



- The invitation to become a child of God by faith in Christ Jesus is extended to all -
 - ◆ *God loves all - (Jn 3:16)*
 - ◆ *Jesus says come - (Mat 11:28-30)*
 - ◆ *God's grace is to all - (Tit 2:11)*
 - ◆ *God desires all saved - (1 Tim 2:4)*
 - ◆ *Jesus, propitiation for all - (1 Jn 2:1,2)*
 - ◆ *Whoever desires - (Rev 22:17)*
 - ◆ *God's wills none perish - (2 Peter 3:9)*

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

Accepted In Christ

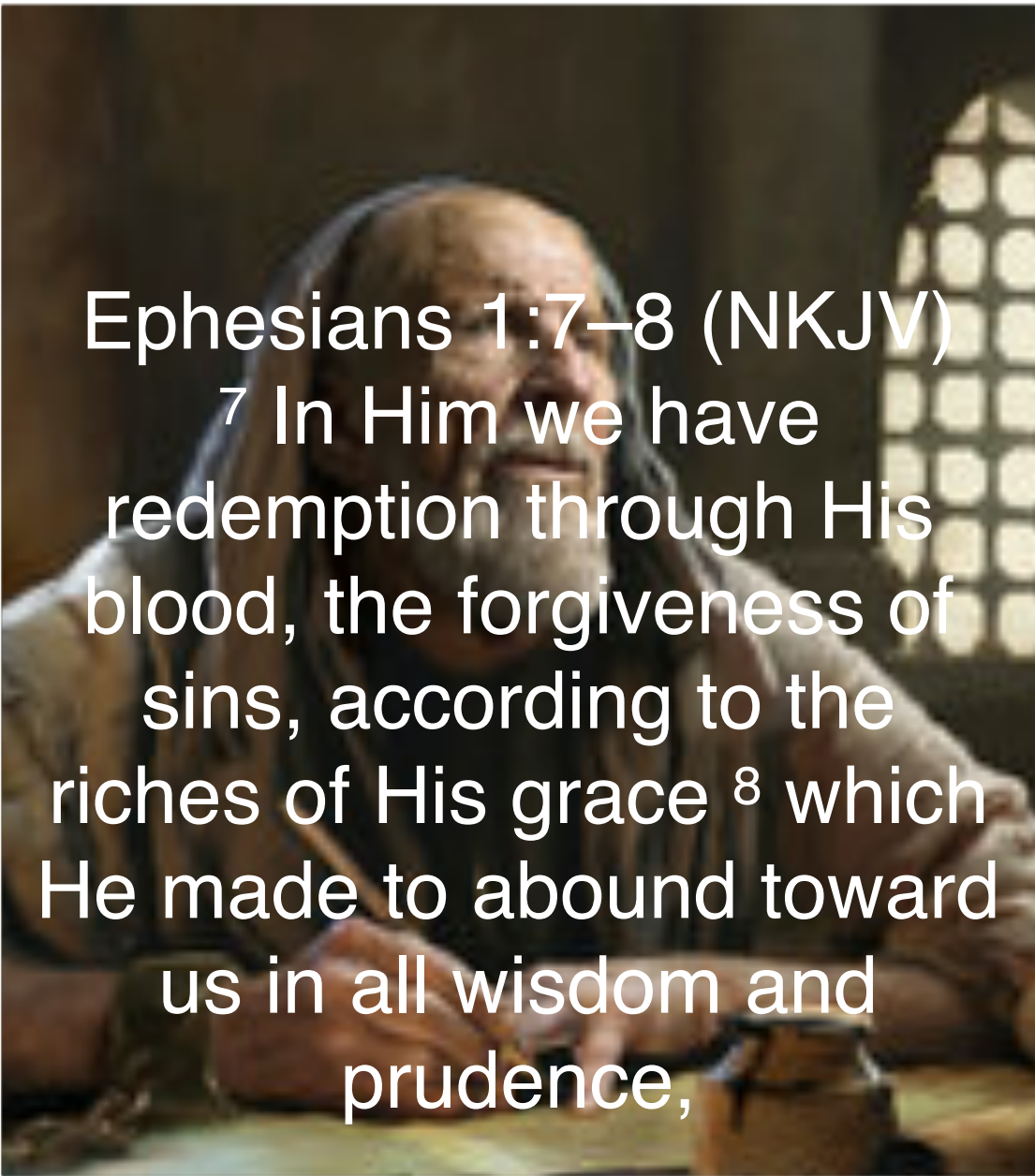


Ephesians 1:6 (NKJV)
to the praise of the glory
of His grace, by which He
made us accepted in the
Beloved.

- God's grace is worthy of commendation and exaltation – which was manifested in the sacrifice of Jesus – (*1:10; Tit 3:3-5; Rom 5:6-8, 11*)
- It is by God's grace (*unmerited favor*) that “*acceptance*” in Christ is made possible – (*2:1-9; Rom 5:8-10*)
- This grace that brings salvation has appeared to all men - (*Tit. 2:11, 12; John 3:16; 2 Pet 3:9; 1 Tim 2:4; 1 John 2:1, 2*)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

Redemption & Forgiveness In Christ



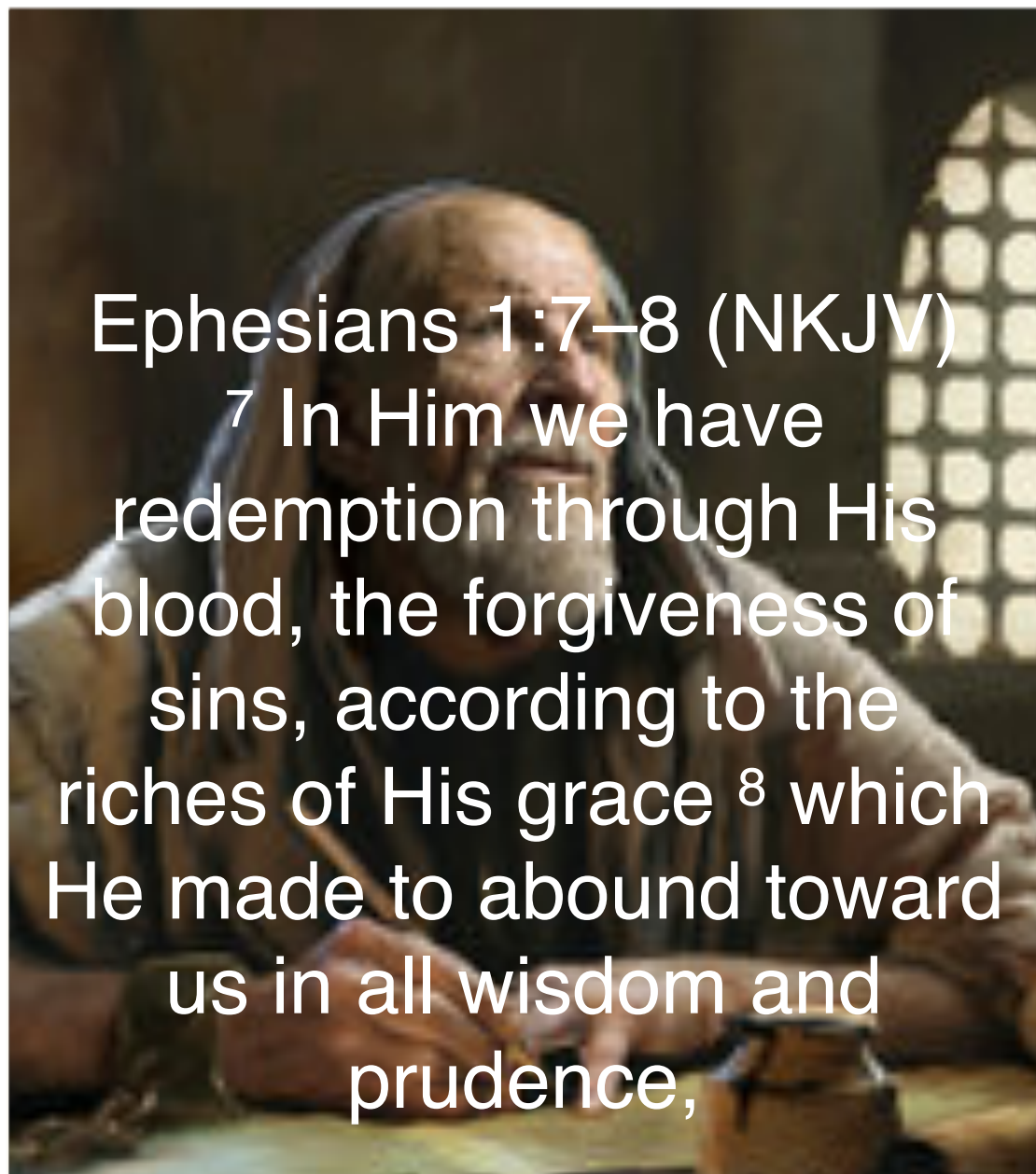
Ephesians 1:7–8 (NKJV)

⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace ⁸ which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence,

- Redemption, refers to deliverance or a releasing from bondage or setting one free by paying a ransom. – (*John 8:34 cf. Rom. 7:14; 3:23,24*)
- We have redemption **ONLY** through Jesus' blood - (*Mat 20:28; 26:28; Acts 20:28; Rom 3:23-26; 1 Cor 6:20; Gals 3:13; 4:5; Col 1:13,14; 1 Timothy 2:5,6; 1 Pet 1:18-20; 2 Peter 2:1*)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

Redemption & Forgiveness In Christ



Ephesians 1:7–8 (NKJV)

⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace ⁸ which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence,

- We are redeemed, from the power, guilt, and spiritual consequences of sin - (*Col. 1:14; 3:23; Mt 1:21; Jn 8:32,33; Rom. 6-8*)
- Our sins are forgiven, washed away, cut away by the blood of Christ when we are by faith baptized into Christ - (*Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom. 6:3-6; Col. 2:11-13*)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

Redemption & Forgiveness In Christ

Ephesians 1:7–8 (NKJV)

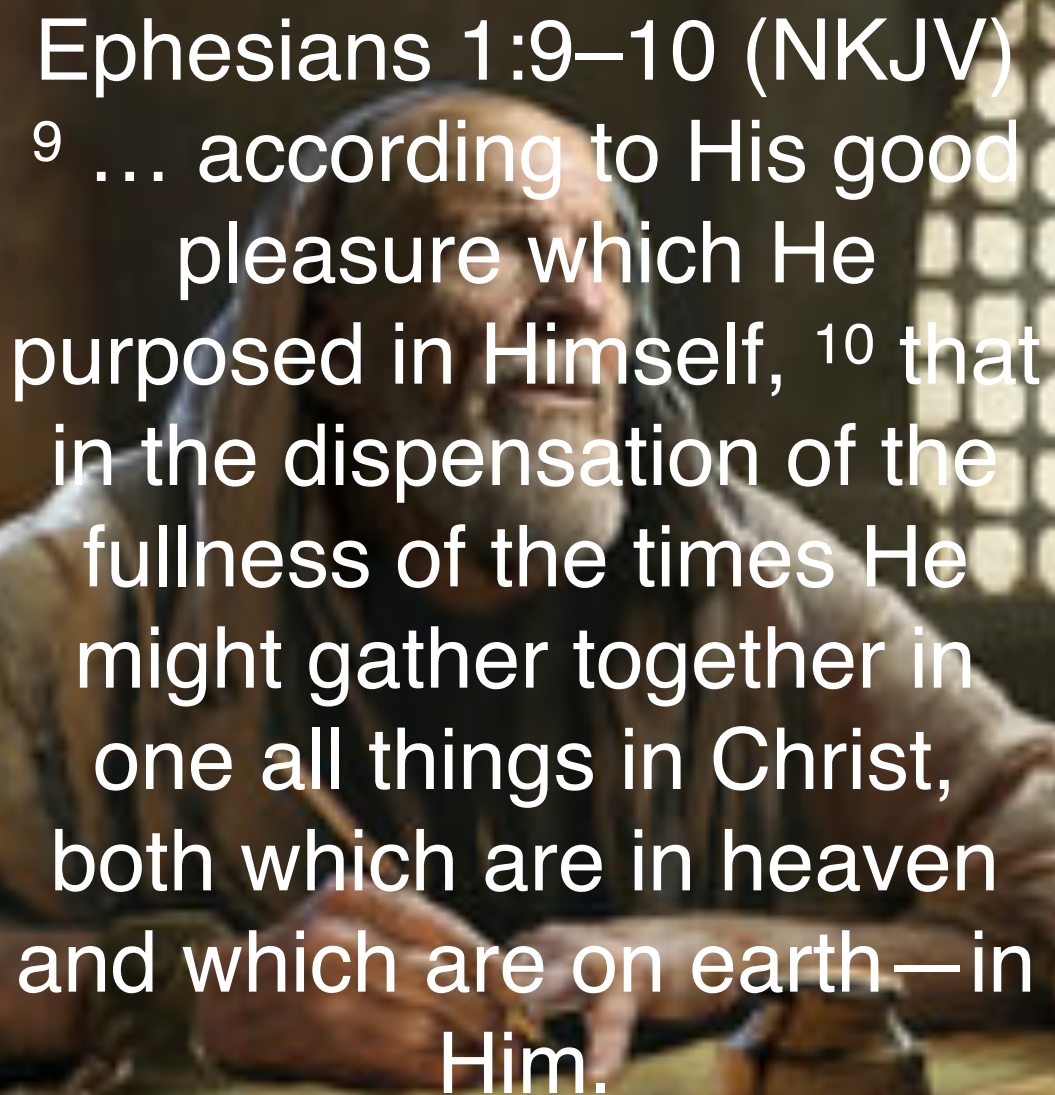
⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace ⁸ which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, ⁹ having made known to us the mystery of His will,

■ ***“According to the riches of his grace,”*** -

- ◆ *Redemption & forgiveness are in no way deserved, & cannot be earned - (2:8,9; Rom. 4:1-6; Tit. 3:5)*
- ◆ *What can one possess in this life more valuable? - (Mat 16:26)*
- ◆ *God has revealed His willingness to pardon, save & equip us - If we understand His purpose - we understand the greatness of His provisions - (9,10; 3:5; 20,21; Col 1:9-12, 25-29; Ro 5:15-21; 2 Cor 9:8; Phil 4:13)*

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

Reconciliation In Christ

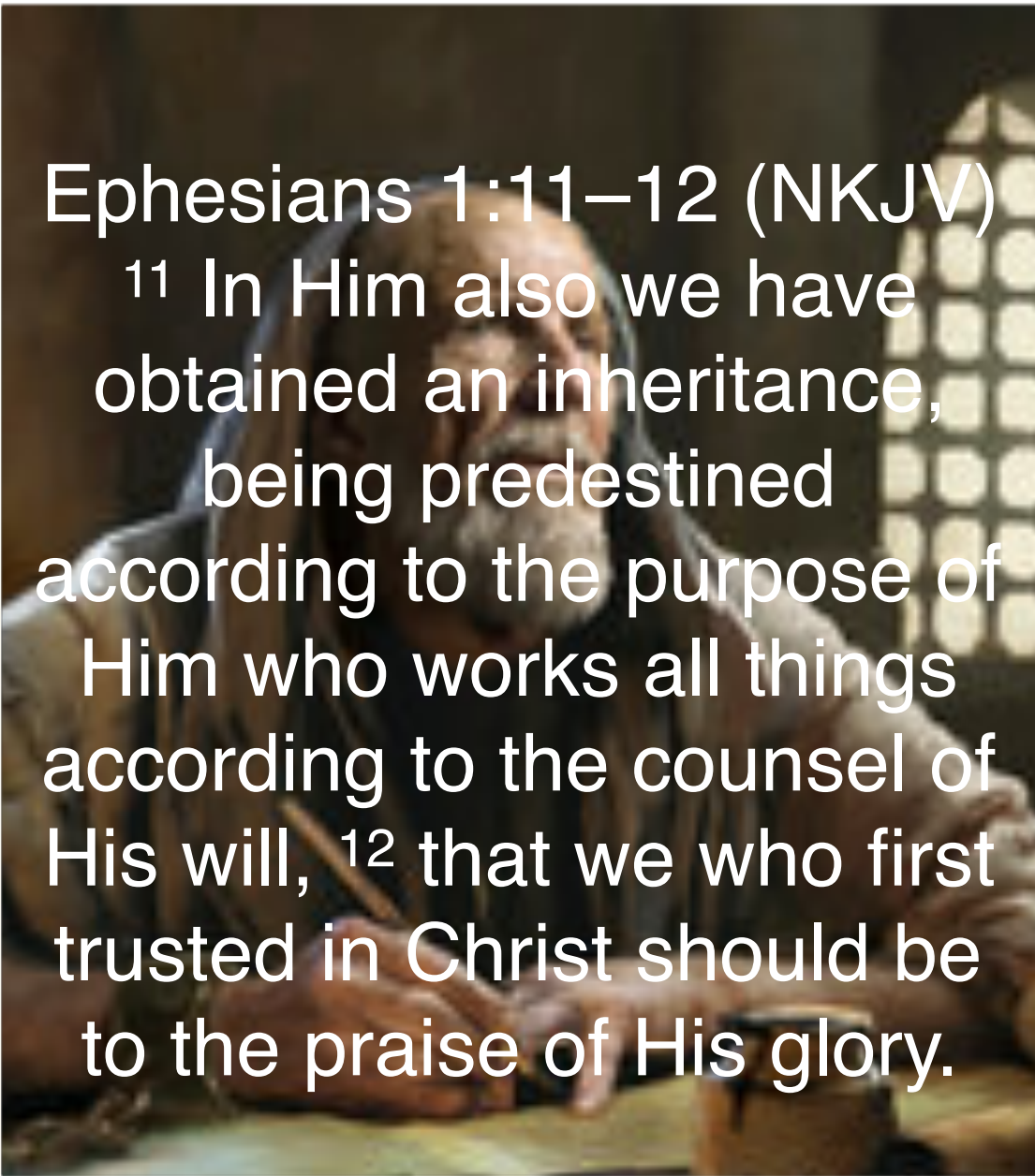


Ephesians 1:9–10 (NKJV)
⁹ ... according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰ that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.

- According to God's good pleasure, He purposed to reconcile sinful man to Himself by sending His Son to die & be raising Him from the dead - (*3:11; 2:16; Gal. 4:4,5; 1 Pet 1:20; Gal 3:26-29; Ro 5:12-21; 2 Cor 5:18; Col 1:20-22*)
- “*He might gather together in one all things in Christ...*” under the headship of Christ (*1:22,23; cf. 2:15; 3:15; Col. 1:19,20; 2:9,10*).

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

Our Inheritance In Christ



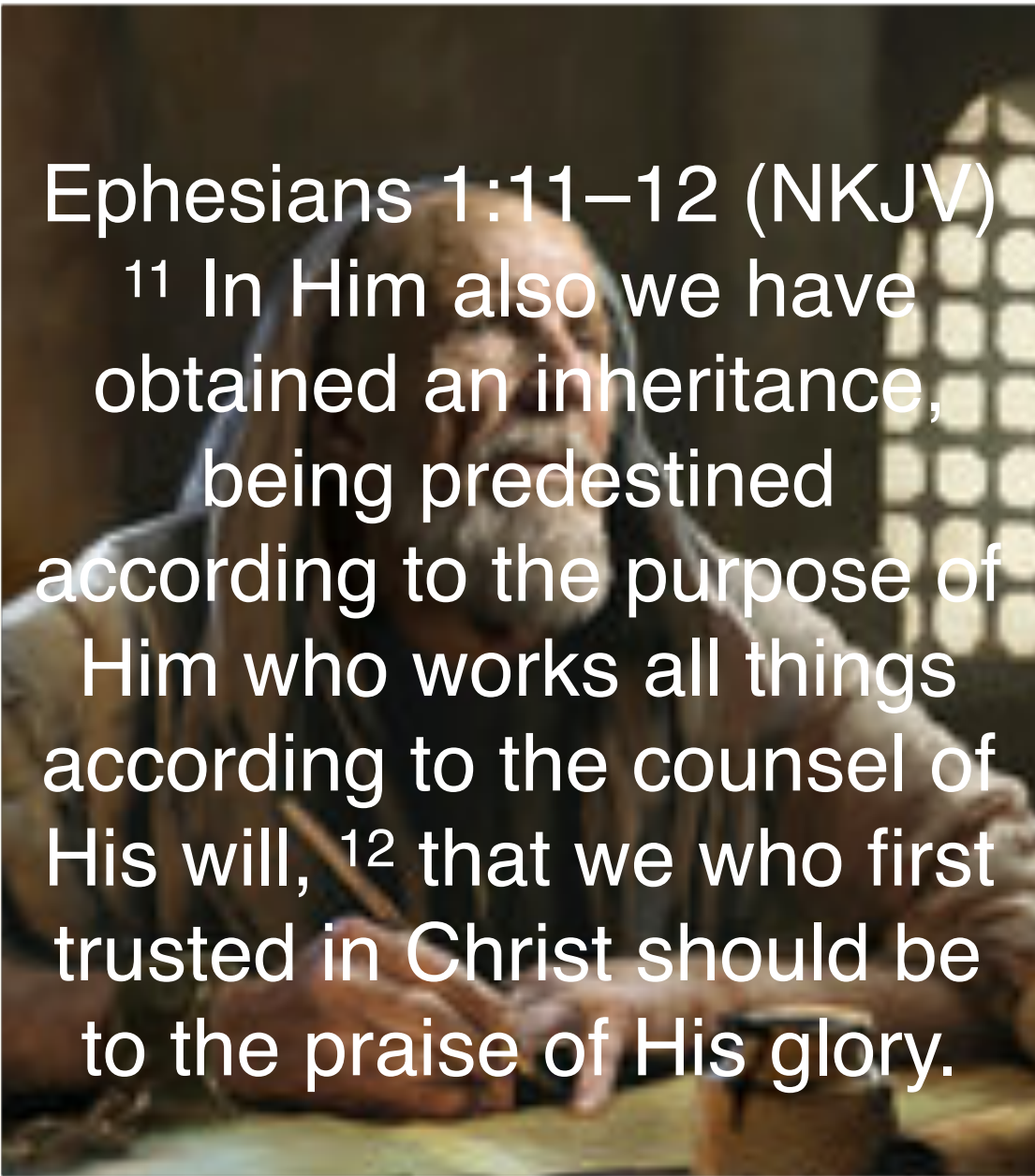
Ephesians 1:11–12 (NKJV)

¹¹ 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.

- **“In whom also we were made a heritage,** (ASV) – (cf. v. 12,18) - “We (*both Jews and Gentiles*) are made the heritage of God Himself in Christ.”
- We are thus heirs with Christ having obtained “*an inheritance*” in Him— (*Acts 26:18; Gal 4:7; Mark 10:30; Titus 1:2; Rom 8:24, 25; 1 Peter 1:3-5, 9; 1 John 2:25*)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

Our Inheritance In Christ



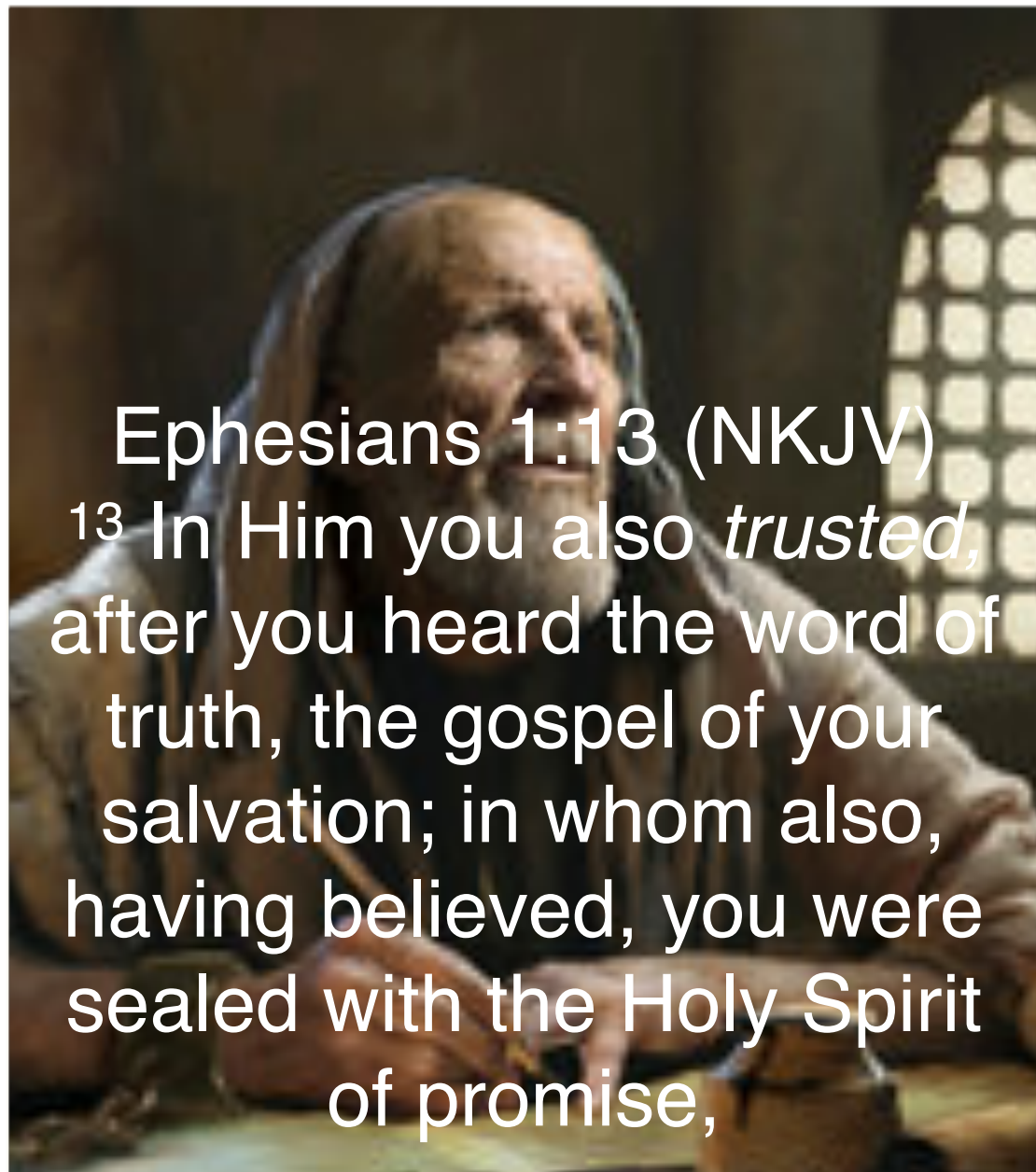
Ephesians 1:11–12 (NKJV)

¹¹ 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.

- This was no after-thought, but was according to God's plan and purpose "*in Christ before the foundation of the world,*" - (1:4; Is 46:10; 2 Tim 1:9; 1 Pet 1:18-20).
- "That we (*Jewish Christians, or apostles in contrast with the "you" of 13*), should be a people devoted to the praise of his glory." – (*Acts 3:26; Rom 1:16*)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

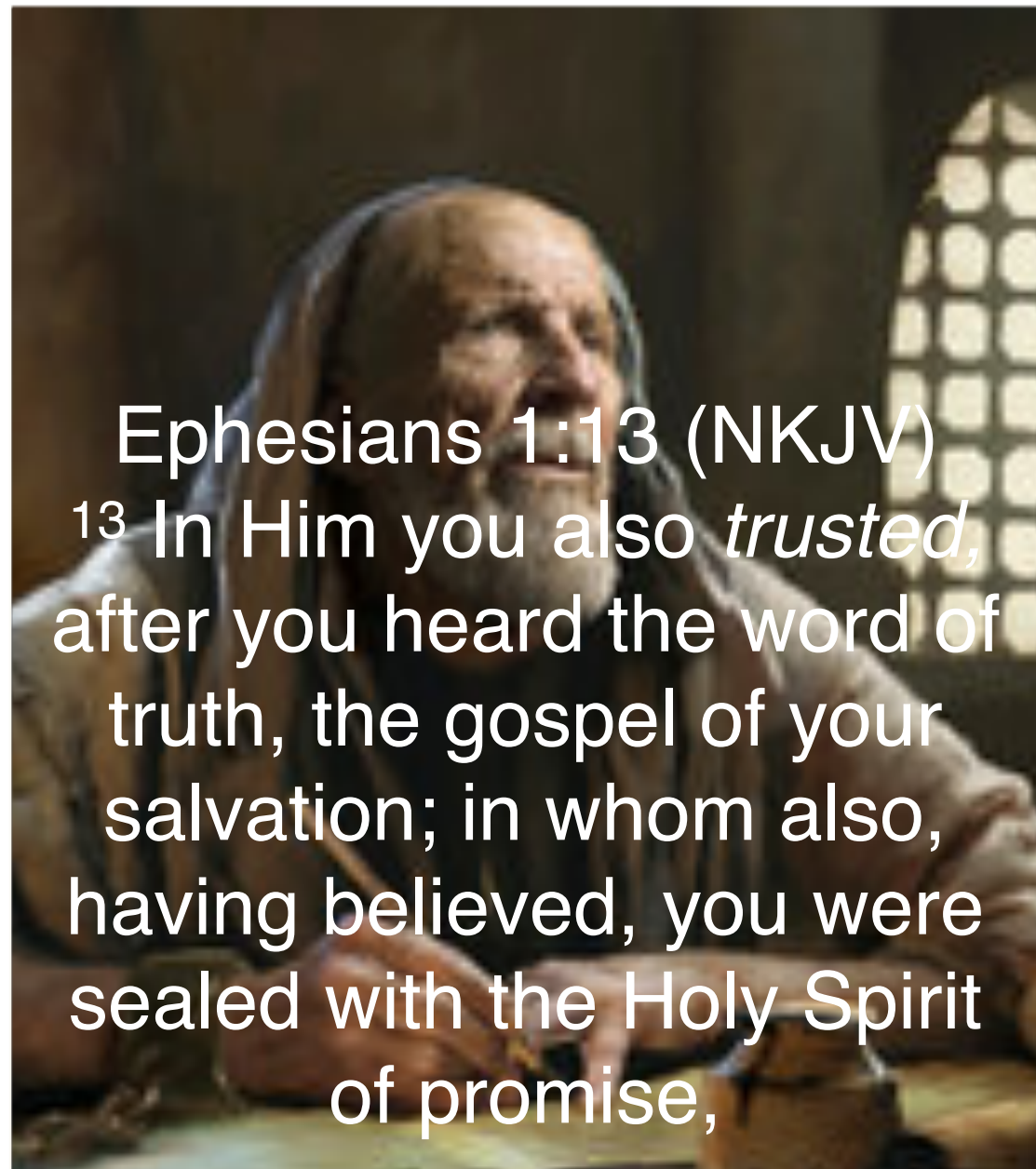
Our Guarantee In Christ



- **“In whom you also”** (*you also were included in Christ - [NIV] Gentile believers*) – (2:11,12; Col. 1:21-23; 1 Pet. 2:10)
- **“Having heard [ASV]”** - It’s through the gospel that we receive the inheritance – (*Mark 16:15,16; Jam 1:18-25; 2 Thes 2:13,14; Ro 1:16,17; Acts 8:30-39*)
- **“Having believed”** - (*Ro 10:17; Acts 16:34; 19:5; Gal 3:26,27*)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

Our Guarantee In Christ



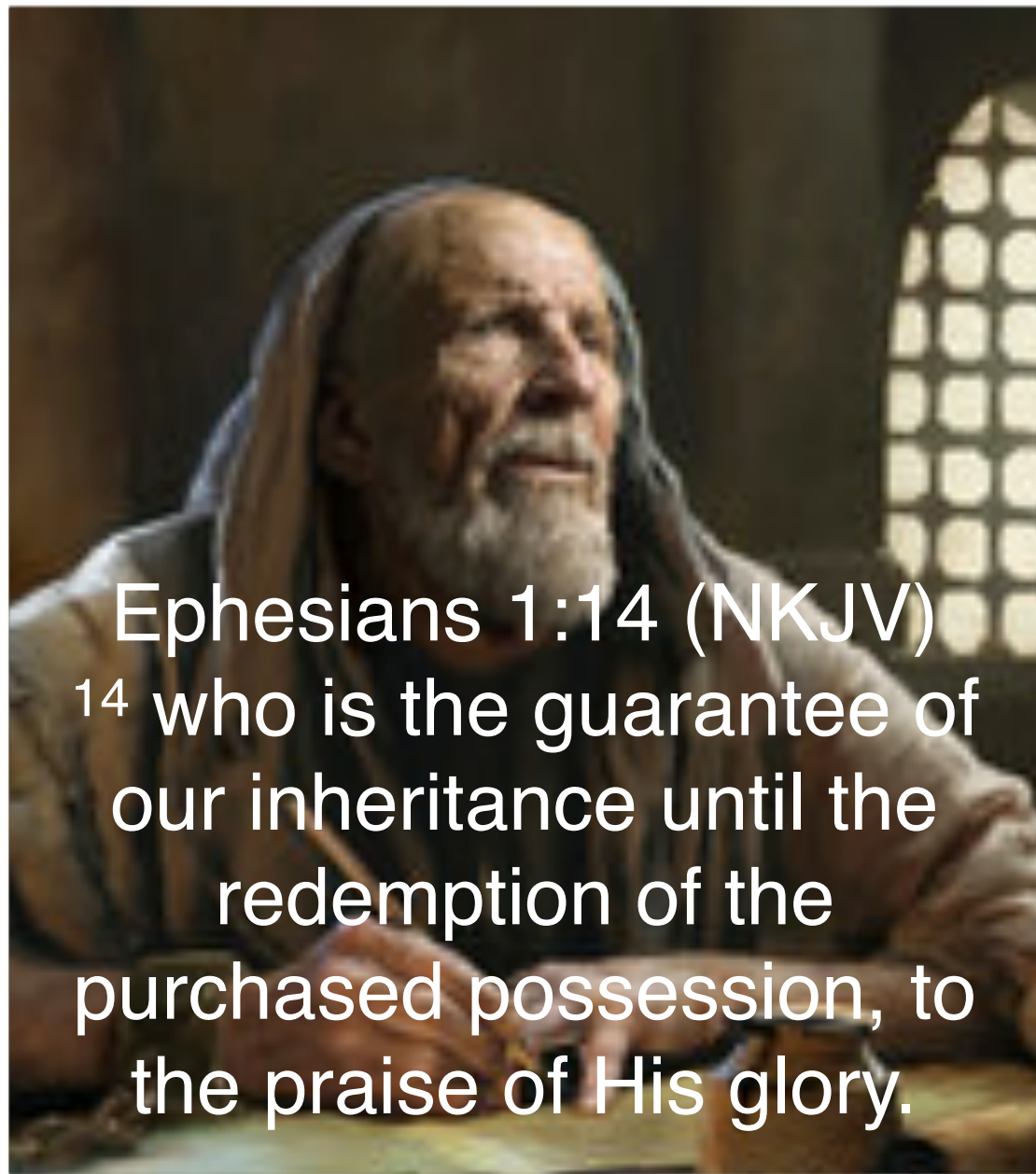
Ephesians 1:13 (NKJV)

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,

- **“In whom . . . you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise”** - Marked or identified as belonging to God -(4:30; 2 Cor. 1:22; cf. Rom. 8:14-17; 2 Tim 2:19)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

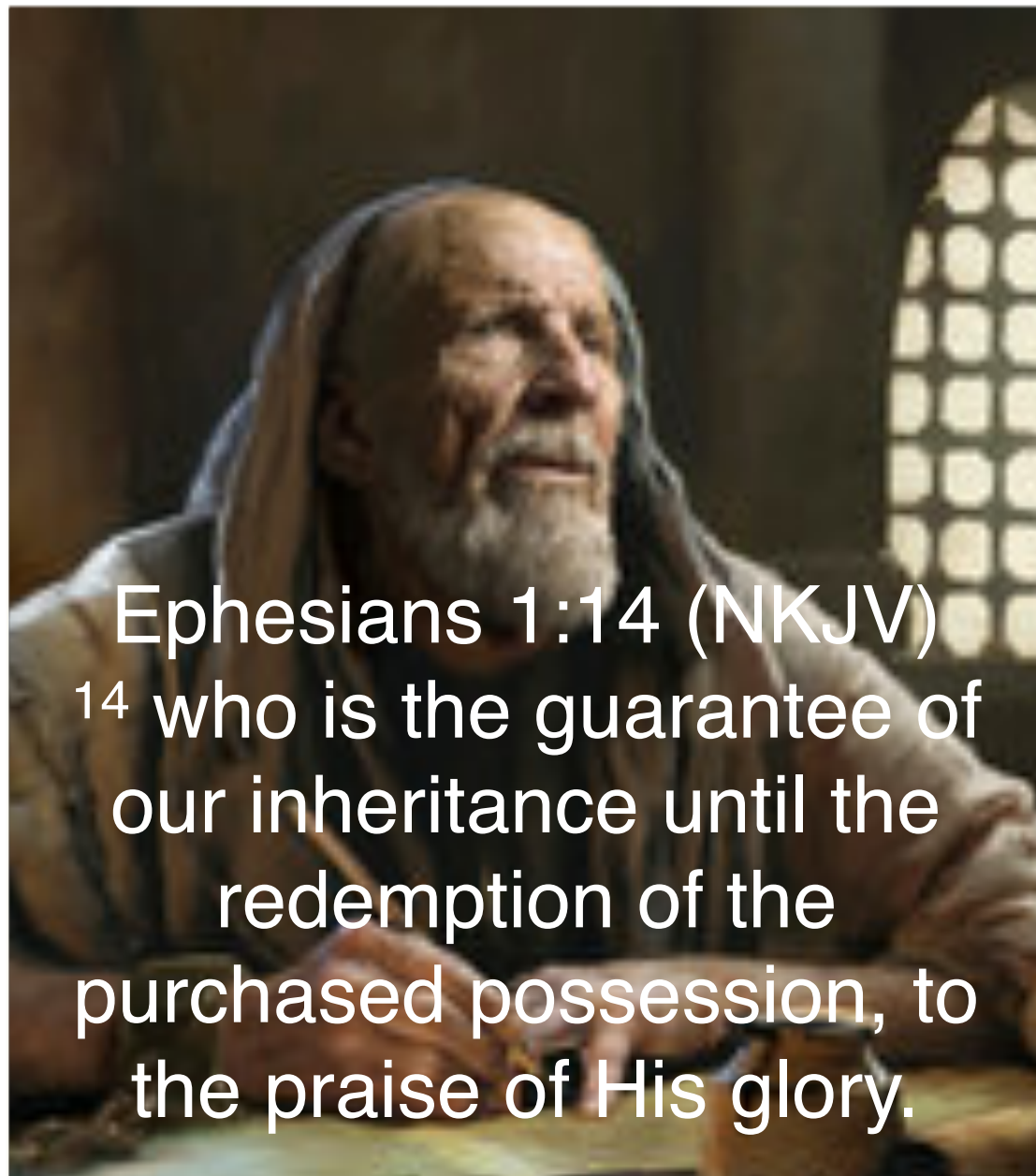
Our Guarantee In Christ



- **“In whom . . . you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise”** - Marked or identified as belonging to God -(4:30; 2 Cor. 1:22 ASV; cf. Rom. 8:14-17)
- **“Who is the guarantee”** - (ASV says “*which is . . .*”) – A “pledge,” “an assurance or guarantee of something that would be forthcoming, not “a down payment” or “partial payment” - (Gal. 4:4-7; Gen.38:15-20)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

Our Guarantee In Christ



- The seal & guarantee relates to the genuineness of the message and the authenticity of the message's impact on believers - (Rom. 8:12-39; 2 Cor. 1:22; 5:5)
- It is therefore with faith & hope we look forward to the consummation of the promises in Christ, i.e., the redemption of our bodies & eternal life in heaven - (*Ro 8:23-25; 2 Tim 4:8*)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

All Spiritual Blessings Are In Christ

Outside Christ Lost Without Hope

NO spiritual blessings —
NOT chosen —
NOT children of God —
NOT accepted —
NO redemption —
NO forgiveness —
NO relationship —
NO assurance —
NO heavenly Inheritance

Baptized
Into

Rom. 6:3-6
Gal. 3:26,27
Acts 2:38,47

In Christ Saved / Hope

ALL spiritual blessings
Chosen —
A child of God —
Accepted —
Redeemed —
Forgiven —
Reconciled —
Assurance —
A Heavenly Inheritance



(Ephesians 1:1-14)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

All spiritual blessings are found only in Christ, given only to those who are in Christ, and are of much greater value to us than the material - Matthew 16:24-26.

The background of the image is a collage of various elements. On the left, there is a pile of gold coins, some of which are 100 Euro coins. In the bottom right, there is a round, brass-colored compass with a needle pointing towards the top right. The entire scene is set against a background of an old, textured map with various lines and text. The lighting is warm and golden, creating a sense of richness and history.

(Ephesians 1:1-14)

The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

**If we are in Christ, do we fully understand how
RICH we actually are?**

**If we are NOT in Christ, do we realize how truly
impoverished & destitute we truly are -
no life or hope - LOST!**



The Believer's Riches **IN CHRIST**

Charts by Don McClain / Preached September 17, 2017

West 65th Street church of Christ P.O. Box 190062 / Little Rock AR 72219 / 501-568-1062 / Email – donmcclain@sbcglobal.net

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COLOSSIANS 1:9-14 (NKJV)

⁹ For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; ¹⁰ that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

COLOSSIANS 1:9-14 (NKJV)

¹¹ strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; ¹² giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.