

Hello! This is Dorothy -

What a tremendous thought to know we have life in Christ. When we realize this, then the whole purpose of why we are here gets turned around. We are told in **Ephesians chapter 1, verse 4**, that the Father planned our salvation. Then we are told later on, in **verses 7 through 12**, how the Son paid for our salvation. Then we are told in **verses 13 and 14**, how the Spirit applies our salvation.

Let's just open our Bibles, please, to **Ephesians chapter 1** and look at that amazing **verse 4** -

4 Even as [in His love] He chose us . . . I love that! You know, you might look in the mirror and wonder who would chose you! Well, it was in His love He chose us. I think He needed a lot of love perhaps to choose some of us. He actually picked us out for Himself as His own. It is shown that in the Amplified version. . . . **in Christ** - *we were chosen* - **before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy. . .** "Oh boy," you say, "that is not me!" . . . **consecrated and set apart for Him)** . . . Perhaps right now you want to say in your heart, *Lord, that is what I want. There is nothing in this world's system. I want to be literally taken by You, as I have been chosen by You, and set apart for Your glory; consecrated for Your purposes.*

Then it goes on to say in this same verse . . . **and blameless in His sight. . .** It does not say that we will be sinless, but **blameless**. Now that is an amazing thought! We have a way of kind of jumping on one another about who did what and how terrible it is in this church. But you see, in Christ, when we are really in Christ, the Father looks

upon His Son and the Son says, “My child, I carried all that.” That makes you more and more not wanting to do those things you didn’t care about before, because you now realize the Lord has paid the price for this with the grief and the pain. But He still says, “They are blameless in My sight. I paid for it all.” That is what the finished work is all about. It goes on to say . . . **even above reproach, before him in love.** So to say that again: *(He chose us) to be set apart for Him, and blameless in His sight, even above reproach, before Him in love.*

Now we have all met the mother who always says, “My child never does anything wrong,” and the child really cashes in on that! (My mother did not have that training; she always told me when I was wrong!) It is very easy for us to kind of get around a problem, isn’t it, and to think, “Oh well, it is those other people.” But this is not the way the Lord looks on us and says that we are **even above reproach.** He knows everything; every thought and every act. Yet, He said, “In My body there on the Cross, I paid for every one of those sins that you think so little about, but I still love you enough because I want you to be **set apart** for Myself.” The Son paid for them.

7 In Him we have redemption (deliverance and salvation) through His blood, the remission (forgiveness) of our offenses (shortcomings and trespasses), in accordance with the riches and the generosity of His gracious favor. . . .Generosity of His gracious favor! I love it!

8 Which He lavished upon us in every kind of wisdom and understanding (practical insight and prudence).

9 Making known to us the mystery (secret) of His will (of His plan, of His purpose). [And it is this:] In accordance with His good pleasure, (His merciful intention) which He had previously purposed and set forth (in Christ Jesus) in

Him.

10 [He planned] for the maturity of the times and the climax of the ages to unify all things, and head them up and consummate them in Christ, both things in heaven and things on the earth.

11 In Him, we also were made [God's] heritage (*portion*) and we obtained an inheritance that we had - *amazingly! from God* - foreordained (chosen and appointed beforehand) in accordance with His purpose, Who works out everything in agreement with the counsel and design of His [own] will.

In other words, there is not a situation that you are meeting that the Lord has not worked out everything in agreement with His counsel. Will you thank God for what He has done for you in Christ Jesus and read those verses for yourself? They are in **chapter 1 of Ephesians**. That is how much God loves you and that is how God sees you, as a vessel for what He wants to do through you. It is not you serving Him, but Him serving through you the life He has planned by the power of His Spirit and the impact that it will make in these closing ages of time before Jesus comes. May that be the message to your heart as you respond to Jesus. *We love you.*

In His Name. Amen.