

Connected
Connected Through the Holy Spirit in Salvation
Ephesians 1:13-14

I. Message

a. **The Holy Spirit is the GOSPEL SEAL on believers – v.13**

i. Saving faith

1. Triangle – Understand, agree, believe
 - a. God has done His part in salvation
 - b. Have you done YOUR part?
 - i. “In whom ye also trusted”
 - ii. Have you understood, agreed, believed?
2. So, if God does all the work...
3. And I am called to believe...
4. How does that happen?
5. **Romans 10:17**

ii. V.13 – The gospel of salvation

1. What is the “gospel of salvation”?
2. Gospel means “Good news”
3. So, the gospel of salvation is this:
 - a. Good news! You can be saved from penalty of sin (death)
 - b. Good news! You can be saved from the power of sin
 - c. Good news! You can be saved from the presence of sin
 - d. This good news is all possible because of what Jesus did on the cross!
 - i. OK, so I’ve heard the truth of Jesus
 - ii. I repented from my sin and trusted Him alone
 - iii. But how do I know for sure that I’m in?
4. You have been sealed (along with the rest of us) by the Holy Spirit

iii. What does it mean to be “sealed”?

1. You’ve received the guarantee
2. The picture is a wax seal of an official document - notarized
 - a. Our salvation is secured by the Holy Spirit
 - b. Our salvation is verified and confirmed by the Holy Spirit
 - c. The transaction of our salvation is signified as complete by the Holy Spirit

b. **The Holy Spirit is the GUARANTEE of our inheritance – v.14**

i. What is the inheritance?

1. All we have been given in Christ
2. All that awaits us in Heaven
 - a. How do we know we will receive it?

- b. **2 Corinthians 1:20-22**
- c. It's very much like an engagement ring
- d. The Holy Spirit is the "hardware"
- e. He shows us that the deal is REAL
- f. And that someday we will get ALL we are promised
- g. The "purchased possession"

II. Conclusion – What is the purchased possession?

a. **Abundant life together in the imperfect family of God**

- i. **Acts 4:31-33**
- ii. What happens when the spirit shows up in a church?
 - 1. Immediately people are testifying of Christ
 - 2. Immediately they are sacrificing for each other
 - 3. Immediately they are praying, experiencing power, producing fruit, baptizing
 - 4. Living together (gathering in unity) "with one heart and one soul"
- iii. **Ephesians 4:29-32 "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. 30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: 32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."**

b. **Eternal life together in the perfect presence of God**

- i. Some day we will be in perfect unity with one another and with God and Jesus
- ii. Jesus paid for this reality on the cross
- iii. And we get it TOGETHER

III. **Bonus application: Not feeling the seal of the Spirit?**

- a. The Bible teaches that you and I can hinder the work of the Holy Spirit
 - i. Carnal living – not thinking with eternal values
 - ii. Grieving the Holy Spirit – not listening to Him
 - iii. Sinning against the Holy Spirit – not obeying to Him
 - 1. Our carnal living
 - 2. Our refusal to listen and obey
 - 3. Our busy lives without God
 - 4. Can hamper the "flow" of the Holy Spirit
 - 5. If you are not feeling sealed, connected in the body
- b. Check to see if it might be YOU that is hampering the Spirit!