

Praise for Our Portfolio

Ephesians: Living in Light of Our Eternal Portfolio | Dr. Michael Rydelnik
Ephesians 1:3-6

Introduction

I. We must praise God for all the benefits He has given us. v. 3

A. Our benefits come from God the Father.

B. Our benefits are provided by the Holy Spirit.

1. These benefits are not ethereal

2. These benefits are sufficient for all of life

3. These benefits are secure in God's presence.

C. Our benefits are only available in the Son.

II. We must praise God the Father for His plan. vv. 4-6

A. God the Father set us apart for Himself. v. 4

1. The Father's choice was made before the world began.

2. The Father's choice guarantees our ultimate perfection.

3. The Father's choice means that God alone is responsible for our deliverance from sin.

B. God the Father predetermined that we would be in His family. v. 5

C. God the Father graciously identified us with His beloved Son. v. 6

III. Now what?

A. Be specific in praising and glorifying God for all His benefits.

B. Celebrate rather than criticize God's choice.

1. But it's not fair for God to chose some rather than others.

Answer: It's God's right as sovereign to choose as He wills.

2. But it's not logical for God to chose some and still hold people responsible.

Answer: This is one of many mysterious antinomies we must accept.

3. But it's not practical to evangelize if only the chosen will be saved.

Answer: We are still responsible to obey the Great Commission.

4. But it's not genuine to invite a response if only the chosen will accept the invitation.

Answer: God offers a genuine invitation to all even He knows that some won't respond.

God the Father planned our salvation before time so that we might give Him our praise for all time.

Conclusion

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GIVING UPDATE

GENERAL FUND

Planned for March:	\$906,778
Received in March:	\$484,036
YTD Planned (as of Feb 28):	\$1,657,807
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