

THE PATHWAY TO ETERNAL LIFE

Notes By Franklin

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INTRODUCTION

The following study is a teaching that helps to reveal the **LOVE** that our FATHER has for HIS Children, and what **HIS GRACE has done for us**. The study revealed to me a truth that I had not clearly understood before. I think it is a teaching that will bless and capture the hearts of both young and old believers.

Our Study

A pathway leads to a destination and to reach that destination the pathway must be travelled. And to travel to a destination that you have not visited before requires some means of guidance. The guidance is critical. It must be accurate, or you will have some degree of difficulty arriving where you desire to go. You need to be able to trust your map, your GPS, your friend, your sense of direction.

The most important destination of all is WHERE WE WILL GO TO SPEND ETERNITY. Our Creator **HAS SET ETERNITY IN OUR HEART**. Ecclesiastes 3:11 The Bible is the most authoritative source on the reality of eternity. And the Bible is TRUSTWORTHY.

Romans 15:4 **WHATEVER WAS WRITTEN IN EARLIER TIMES WAS WRITTEN FOR OUR INSTRUCTION, SO THAT THROUGH PERSEVERANCE AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE SCRIPTURES WE MIGHT HAVE HOPE** That we will ARRIVE at our destination. The assurance of our hope is well stated in that: The LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, CREATOR OF THE HEAVENS AND EARTH IS THE ULTIMATE IN SOVEREIGNTY AND AUTHORITY.

Isaiah 46:10-11 **DECLARING THE END FROM THE BEGINNING, AND FROM ANCIENT TIMES THINGS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN DONE, SAYING, MY PURPOSE WILL BE ESTABLISHED, AND I WILL ACCOMPLISH ALL MY GOOD PLEASURE. 11 TRULY I HAVE SPOKEN; TRULY I WILL BRING IT TO PASS. I HAVE PLANNED IT, I WILL DO IT.**

Isaiah 55:11 SO WILL MY WORD BE WHICH GOES FORTH FROM MY MOUTH; IT WILL NOT RETURN TO ME EMPTY, WITHOUT ACCOMPLISHING WHAT I DESIRE, AND WITHOUT SUCCEEDING IN THE MATTER FOR WHICH I SENT IT.

This Truth, The Sovereignty of GOD, is important for our Study. And knowing that the Greek language is very precise, and that the **Aorist** tense means: The action took place at a point in the past.

With this understanding we open our GPS Guidebook, The Bible, and start down The Path with JESUS leading us every step of the way. **HE has prepared the path before us.** However, we must be very careful as there are **two paths** leading to ETERNITY: **ETERNAL LIFE** or **ETERNAL DEATH.** We must start and stay on **the right path.**

THE NARROW AND THE WIDE GATE

Matthew 7:13-14 ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE; FOR THE GATE IS WIDE AND THE WAY IS BROAD THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, AND MANY ARE THOSE WHO ENTER BY IT. 14 FOR THE GATE IS SMALL AND THE PATH IS NARROW THAT LEADS TO LIFE, AND FEW ARE THOSE WHO FIND IT. NASU

Proverb 3:5-7 TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART. LEAN NOT ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING. 6 IN ALL YOUR WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM, AND HE WILL MAKE YOUR PATHS STRAIGHT. 7 DO NOT BE WISE IN YOUR OWN EYES.

Psalms 17:4-5 BY THE WORD OF YOUR LIPS I HAVE KEPT AWAY FROM THE PATH OF THE DESTROYER. 5 UPHOLD MY STEPS IN YOUR PATH, THAT MY FOOTSTEPS MAY NOT SLIP NKJV A good memory verse for daily use.

Psalms 119:105 YOUR WORD IS A LAMP TO MY FEET AND A LIGHT TO MY PATH. Bringing knowledge and revelation of all HE HAS DONE FOR US.

We need to realize there are TWO GATES, one to DESTRUCTION and one to LIFE. For a Christian to take a few steps into the WIDE GATE and BROAD EASY WAY, IT IS THE FIRST STEP ALLOWING MANY PROBLEMS to begin. We MUST heed and follow the call of JESUS as HE says to all HIS Disciples, "**FOLLOW ME.**" This is a Bible

Study for clear directions from JESUS, to **FOLLOW HIM STEP** by **STEP** through the SMALL GATE and down the NARROW **PATH** to: **ETERNAL LIFE**. Each steppingstone is a BLESSING and **accomplished BY HIS GRACE**. As the song says, Let us Count our Blessings, Count them one by one.

Ephesians 1:3-4 TO THE SAINTS AT EPHESUS. 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 (STEP#1) HE CHOSE US "IN" HIM (Greek ἐν (in); "denotes a **fixed position** in place, time or state". **BEFORE THE CREATION OF THE WORLD, "TO BE" (STEP #2) HOLY AND BLAMELESS IN HIS SIGHT.** NIV

"TO BE" is a Greek word used only when **emphatic** or **definite**. It is saying, it is **certain**, a **sure thing, without a doubt**, that those HE CHOSE, and are **"IN" HIM WILL BE HOLY** and **BLAMELESS BEFORE HIM**. HE HAS DECLARED IT. And from HIS position in Eternity where there is no time our **fixed position** is **"IN" HIM. IN JESUS, HIS DEATH WAS OUR DEATH. AND HIS BLOOD forgave our sin. Therefore now before the LORD GOD WE ARE HOLY AND BLAMELESS.**

YOU ARE THAT SPECIAL and LOVED BY HIM. CHOSEN TO BE HIS CHILD.

EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING IN THE HEAVENS HAS ALREADY BEEN GIVEN TO US. And for an example, **THE GREATEST BLESSING OF ALL IS: HE CHOSE US.** It is DONE and NEVER TO BE UNDONE from BEFORE THE CREATION OF THE WORLD THAT **WE ARE HIS CHILDREN, HOLY AND BLAMELESS BEFORE HIM.** The way HE sees us from HIS Eternal Position, **DECLARING THE END FROM THE BEGINNING.** Isaiah 46:10

Ephesians 1:5 (STEP #3) IN LOVE HE PREDESTINED US (Greek Aorist tense at a point in the past) **FOR (STEP #4) ADOPTION AS HIS CHILDREN THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO THE GOOD PLEASURE OF HIS WILL.** NRSV
What does the word ADOPTION MEAN TO YOU?? The current English definition of ADOPTION is: "A child is taken to legally become the child of parents that **DID NOT GIVE HIM BIRTH.**

The Greek word for adoption is from a compound of: the word "son" and the word "to place" Giving the meaning: **TO PLACE AS A SON, or ADULT SON PLACING.**

To me, This is speaking of **SONSHIP or MATURITY.** A GOAL WE ARE **PREDESTINED to obtain.**

In our Western thinking of **ADOPTION,** the child **IS PLACED as A SON, BUT, BY A PARENT THAT DID NOT GIVE HIM BIRTH.** That other parent could only be Satan. HE HAS HIS CHILDREN. 1 John 3:10 **And, WE WERE NEVER CHILDREN OF THE EVIL ONE.**

The word should be translated accurately as "ADULT SON placing" or "placed as a son" and understood as the Jewish ceremony of "Bar Mitzvah." when a family recognizes their 13-year-old child to be considered **an adult** and **responsible** for his moral and religious duties. No longer a child, but a **SON,** "a **MATURE one.**" The **child was ALWAYS in the family,** and now has reached the age to be recognized as a "son" **MATURE,** and an **ADULT.**

Our EARTHLY FATHER gives us the **keys to the car.** Our Heavenly FATHER Gives us **the KEYS TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.** **JESUS** said: **I will give you the KEYS OF THE KINGDOM.** Matthew 16:19

HIS Disciples were **Born Again** on resurrection day **John 20:21** when JESUS appeared to them in the upper room and HE breathed on them and said: **receive the HOLY SPIRIT. HIS Children, HIS Disciples** became **SONS** at that point with the **HOLY SPIRIT "IN" THEM.** **Luke 24:45** describes it this way: **HE OPENED THEIR MINDS TO UNDERSTAND THE SCRIPTURES. (see John 7:39 & 14:16) BUT THE HOLY SPIRIT IN US IS NOT ENOUGH. Vs.49 I AM SENDING THE PROMISE OF MY FATHER UPON YOU: BUT YOU ARE TO STAY IN THE CITY UNTIL YOU ARE CLOTHED WITH POWER FROM ON HIGH.** When The HOLY SPIRIT comes **IN US** is when we move from **HIS CHOSEN Children to HIS SONS and DAUGHTERS.** Qualifying for the HOLY SPIRIT to **COME UPON US** giving us **AUTHORITY** and **POWER.** **Luke 10:17-20** The seventy returned with joy, saying, **LORD, even the demons are subject to us in YOUR NAME. 18 And HE said to them, I was watching satan fall from heaven like lightning. 19 Behold, I HAVE GIVEN YOU AUTHORITY to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over ALL THE POWER OF THE ENEMY, and nothing will injure you. 20** Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that **the spirits are subject to you,** but rejoice that **your names are recorded in heaven.** NASU

The following verses verify that it is speaking of **MATURITY** and **NOT ADOPTION**. Romans 8:14-24 **FOR ALL WHO ARE BEING LED BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD, THESE ARE SONS OF GOD.** (MATURE)¹⁵ **FOR YOU HAVE RECEIVED A SPIRIT OF ADOPTION (PLACED AS A SON YES, BUT NOT ADOPTED)**

A more accurate translation: **YOU HAVE RECEIVED "A SPIRIT OF SONSHIP"**

And verse: **19 FOR THE ANXIOUS LONGING OF THE CREATION WAITS EAGERLY FOR THE REVEALING OF THE SONS OF GOD.**

ALL OF CREATION IS WAITING ON US TO **GROW UP**. TO REALIZE WHO WE ARE AS **SONS** and **DAUGHTERS OF GOD** ALMIGHTY AND EXERCISE THE AUTHORITY GIVEN TO US. AS DANIEL SAID 11:32-33: **THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW THEIR GOD WILL DISPLAY STRENGTH AND TAKE ACTION.** NASU

Back to our PATH. Our DESTINY **TO BE HIS CHILDREN** WAS PREDETERMINED **BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD.** Family Planning. **HE LOVES us** and as a GOOD FATHER, **HE TAKES CARE OF US**, and HAS A **PLAN TO BLESS US** as we **FOLLOW JESUS** along the NARROW WAY. **THANK YOU FATHER.**

JEREMIAH 29:11 FOR I KNOW THE PLANS THAT I HAVE FOR YOU, DECLARES THE LORD, PLANS TO (STEP #5) PROSPER YOU, NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE. NIV ANOTHER VERY GOOD REASON TO FOLLOW JESUS **IN THE NARROW WAY.** HIS Plans will always be better than ours.

THANK YOU JESUS! THANK YOU FATHER.

In **CHOOSING US** and **PREDESTINATING US TO BE HIS CHILDREN HE ALSO (STEP #6) CAUSED US TO BE BORN.** NOT ADOPTED. **HE IS OUR FATHER.**

John 1:11-13 HE CAME TO HIS OWN (HIS own Jewish people) **AND THOSE WHO WERE HIS OWN DID NOT RECEIVE HIM** (they crucified HIM) **BUT TO ALL WHO RECEIVED HIM** (So, there are two groups of people here, those who do not **receive HIM** and those who **do receive HIM**) **TO THEM HE GAVE** (aorist, at a point in the past) **THE PRIVILEGE** (Greek word) **"TO BE" CHILDREN OF GOD, TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN HIS NAME, 13 WHO WERE BORN, NOT OF BLOOD (natural birth) NOT OF THE WILL OF THE FLESH (natural birth) NOT OF THE WILL OF**

MAN (natural birth) BUT OF GOD. This ALSO is **NATURAL BIRTH AND NOT SPEAKING OF BORN AGAIN BUT OUR BIRTH INTO THIS WORLD.**

- **John 3:3-8 Also speaks of this.** www.treasurehisword.com page 3 Translation guidelines require translation consistency. If the first three births speak of natural births, then the last also is speaking of **natural birth**. Some translations read: "Gave the right to **BECOME** children of GOD" instead of "**TO BE**" children of GOD giving the idea that we were not always "CHILDREN OF GOD" but **become HIS** when we **BELIEVE** and are **born again**. This **IS NOT** WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES. The disciples were HIS CHOSEN and CALLED CHILDREN. THEY HAD A "**measure of faith**" (Romans 12:3) are they would not have followed JESUS but were NOT **born again** until **after the resurrection**. **WE WERE BORN OF GOD**. Our **first and natural birth**. We have **always** been our FATHER'S CHIDREN. The Greek word is: ginomai "to be" or "to cause to be." HE GAVE us the RIGHT or PRIVILEGE and **HE CAUSED US "TO BE" HIS CHILDREN WHEN HE CHOSE US**. Therefore, **OUR CITIZENSHIP** (where we are born) **IS IN HEAVEN**, Phillipian 3:20

HOW CAN WE EVER THANK OUR FATHER ENOUGH.

1 John 3:1 BEHOLD WHAT MANNER OF LOVE THE FATHER HAS BESTOWED ON US, THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD! AND SUCH WE ARE
NASB We cannot even begin to comprehend the LOVE our FATHER has for **us**.
THANK YOU FATHER!

Romans 8:29 For whom HE FOREKNEW (Aorist) Those HE knew in eternity past **before they were born, whose names were written** from the foundation of the world in the **Book of LIFE** of the LAMB. Revelation 13:8 & 17:8

Continuing with **Romans 8:29 FOR WHOM HE FOREKNEW** (Aorist) **HE ALSO PREDESTINED US** (Aorist) **TO BE (STEP #7) CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON**. **AWESOME, BLESSED, PRIVILEGED** to be "like" JESUS.
THAT JESUS WOULD BE THE FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY BRETHREN. NASU
OUR FATHER HAS SO MANY WONDERFUL PLANS AND HAS DONE SO MANY AWESOME THINGS FOR US. IT IS AS IF HE IS A PROUD FATHER AND

EXCITED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF HIS CHILDREN AS HE CAUSES ALL THINGS TO WORK TOGETHER FOR OUR GOOD. Romans 8:28

HOW AWESOME, HOW WONDERFUL, HOW SPECIAL IS THIS? THE GREATEST PRIVILEGE THAT COULD EVER BE BESTOWED. AND UPON SINNERS LIKE YOU AND ME: CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON.

THANK YOU FATHER! THANK YOU FATHER! THANK YOU FATHER!

This CONFORMING process is happening now in our lives as we **walk THE PATHWAY** and experience the **trials** of life that The LORD allows to **TEST** and **MATURE** our **FAITH**.

For example, to be conformed into HIS image, the FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: **LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS AND SELF-CONTROL** WILL BEGIN TO BLOSSOM FORTH in and from us as we walk along THE PATHWAY with JESUS. It PLEASES the LORD GREATLY to see us being conformed more **into HIS likeness** as we walk The **Path of Righteousness** with HIM. **Psalm 23:3 HE LEADS ME IN THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

Interestingly, the Greek word "**brethren**" means "**from the same womb.**" As Believers we all have the same FATHER and "from the same womb" means we all have the same mother. There are two verses that speak to this: Galatians 4:26 and vs.31. making our **Spiritual DNA** come from those two sources, our HEAVENLY FATHER and MOTHER. All of this was done before we were born and had not done anything good or bad. IF HE PREDESTINED US TO BE CONFORMED INTO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON, THEN **IT WILL HAPPEN** JUST AS HE SAID. It can either be a long difficult struggle or a relatively short transformation as we FOLLOW and OBEY JESUS along **the path**.

However, the **full TRANSFORMATION WILL** FINALLY BE COMPLETED at the end of **the path** when **(STEP #8) WE WILL ALL BE CHANGED, IN A MOMENT, IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE, AT THE LAST TRUMPET; FOR THE TRUMPET WILL SOUND, AND THE DEAD WILL BE RAISED IMPERISHABLE, AND WE WILL BE CHANGED.** Into HIS LIKENESS. 1 Corinthians 15:51-53

1 John 3:2 **BELOVED, WE ARE CHILDREN OF GOD, AND IT HAS NOT APPEARED AS YET WHAT WE WILL BE. WE KNOW THAT WHEN HE APPEARS, WE WILL BE LIKE HIM (CONFORMED TO HIS IMAGE) WE WILL SEE HIM JUST AS HE IS.**

Philippians 3:21 **The LORD JESUS CHRIST will TRANSFORM the body of our humble state into CONFORMITY with the body of HIS GLORY. THAT WILL BE WONDERFUL. THANK YOU JESUS, THANK YOU JESUS, THANK YOU JESUS.**

Ephesians 2:4-5 **GOD, BEING RICH IN MERCY, (WHY?) BECAUSE OF HIS GREAT LOVE WITH WHICH HE LOVED US, 5 EVEN WHEN WE WERE DEAD IN OUR TRANSGRESSIONS (STEP #9) "MADE US ALIVE" TOGETHER "WITH" CHRIST. **MADE ALIVE** is the **Aorist** tense meaning when JESUS was **RESURRECTED, MADE ALIVE**, WE ALSO AT **that point in the past**, were "**MADE ALIVE,**" **RESURRECTED, TOGETHER "WITH" CHRIST**. This is our **FATHER'S View** from **ETERNATY** where there is no time.**

Colossians 1:26-28 **THE MYSTERY WHICH HAS BEEN HIDDEN FROM THE PAST AGES AND GENERATIONS, BUT HAS NOW BEEN MANIFESTED TO HIS SAINTS, 27 TO WHOM GOD WILLED TO MAKE KNOWN WHAT IS THE RICHES OF THE GLORY OF THIS MYSTERY AMONG THE GENTILES, WHICH IS CHRIST "IN" YOU, (our **fixed position**) **THE HOPE OF GLORY**. 28 WE **PROCLAIM HIM, ADMONISHING EVERY MAN AND TEACHING EVERY MAN** WITH ALL WISDOM, SO THAT **WE MAY PRESENT EVERY MAN COMPLETE "IN" CHRIST**. Greek: τέλειος teleios (tel'-i-os); COMPLETE in growth, mental and moral character, integrity. **MATURE, SONS & DAUGHTERS**.**

Colossians 3:3-4 States this same Marvelous Truth: **FOR YOU ARE DEAD (Crucified with **CHRIST**) **AND YOUR** (new) **LIFE** (STEP #10) IS HIDDEN**

- Greek: κρύπτω krupto: to **HIDE** and **PROTECT BY COVERING**.

IS HIDDEN "WITH" CHRIST "IN" GOD. (Our "**fixed position** in place, time or state") THERE IS NO SAFER PLACE IN ALL CREATION. **Psalms 91** **HE THAT DWELLS IN THE SECRET PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH SHALL ABIDE UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY (HIDDEN) HE IS MY REFUGE, MY FORTRESS, MY GOD IN HIM I**

WILL TRUST. HE SHALL DELIVER YOU FROM THE PESTILENCE AND **COVER YOU** WITH HIS FEATHERS, AND UNDER HIS WINGS YOU SHALL TAKE REFUGE

4 **WHEN CHRIST (STEP #11) WHO IS OUR LIFE** (HIS LIFE IS ETERNAL, THEREFORE OUR LIFE IS ETERNAL) **IS REVEALED, THEN (STEP #12) YOU ALSO WILL BE REVEALED WITH HIM IN GLORY.** (NO DOUBT ABOUT IT) 5
THEREFORE MORTIFY (put to death) **the members of your earthly body AS DEAD to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire . . .**

All of this is because JESUS' SACRIFICE FOR OUR SIN WAS ACCEPTED. **(STEP #13) JESUS WHO HAD NO SIN WAS MADE SIN FOR US.** 2Cornithians 5:21 And **THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH Romans 6:23. (STEP #14) JESUS DIED FOR US,** IN OUR PLACE, OFFERING **HIS BODY, HIS BLOOD FOR OUR SIN. WE WERE CRUCIFIED "WITH" CHRIST.** Galatians 2:20 AND WE WERE **MADE ALIVE TOGETHER "WITH HIM."** (Eph.2:5) **ALIVE FOR EVERMORE. YOU ARE THAT SPECIAL and LOVED BY YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER WHO DID ALL OF THIS FOR YOU, FOR US.**

The sin of **THE FIRST MAN ADAM** (1Cor.15:45) brought sin into the world, and everyone born thereafter, from ADAM, our earthly father, were also sinners. **THE LAST ADAM, JESUS CHRIST,** (1Cor.15:45) **PAID THE PRICE FOR THE SIN OF ALL MANKIND WITH HIS OWN LIFE, HIS OWN BLOOD.** (1 John 2:2) Our **HEAVENLY FATHER SEES** all those **CHOSEN** and **BORN OF HIM,** and **BELIEVE IN HIM,** TO BE **ALIVE "IN" HIM "IN" JESUS** (our fixed position) **MADE ALIVE TOGETHER "WITH HIM."** (Eph. 2:5) THEREFORE: **HOLY AND BLAMELESS "IN" HIM.**

1 John 3:5 YOU KNOW THAT HE APPEARED IN ORDER TO TAKE AWAY SINS; AND "IN HIM" THERE IS NO SIN. WE ARE "IN HIM" WHERE THERE IS NO SIN AND HE IS "IN" US IN THE NEW BORN AGAIN MAN, IN US. THE "OLD" MAN IN US, **IS DEAD.** All of this is in The ETERNAL VIEW of OUR FATHER **WHO DECLARES THE END FROM THE BEGINNING**

Romans 8:1-2 THEREFORE THERE IS NOW NO CONDEMNATION FOR THOSE WHO ARE "IN" CHRIST JESUS. FOR THERE IS NO SIN "IN" CHRIST JESUS 2 FOR **THE**

LAW OF THE SPIRIT OF LIFE "IN" CHRIST JESUS HAS SET YOU FREE FROM THE LAW OF SIN AND DEATH. IN Adam.

1 Corinthians 15:22 FOR AS "IN" ADAM ALL DIE, SO ALSO "IN" CHRIST ALL WILL BE MADE ALIVE. EVERY PERSON IS EITHER "IN" ADAM DEAD. OR "IN" CHRIST ALIVE. From the Eternal Perspective and reality of GOD ALMIGHTY.

Romans 6:3-7 Paul also emphasized this truth: **Do you not KNOW that all of us who have been baptized (Placed) INTO CHRIST JESUS have been (STEP #15) BAPTIZED (Placed) INTO HIS DEATH? 4 Therefore WE HAVE BEEN BURIED WITH HIM through BAPTISM (being PLACED) into HIS DEATH,** The Greek word was NOT translated, the Greek letters were only put in English. To translate the Greek word literally means to "place into." so that **AS CHRIST WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD** by the GLORY of the FATHER, **WE ALSO (IN HIM WERE RAISED UP) AND SHOULD WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE.** 5 For if we have become **UNITED WITH HIM** in the likeness of HIS DEATH, CERTAINLY we shall ALSO BE "IN" THE LIKENESS OF HIS RESURRECTION, 6 **KNOWING THIS,** that OUR OLD SELF WAS **CRUCIFIED WITH HIM,** IN ORDER THAT OUR **BODY OF SIN MIGHT BE DONE AWAY WITH, SO THAT WE WOULD NO LONGER BE SLAVES TO SIN;** 7 FOR HE WHO HAS DIED IS FREE FROM SIN.

Again, this is our **legal** position, **eternal reality,** in all that **HE Has done for us.**

And how our FATHER sees us from ETERNITY where there is no time.

It is a FINISHED, COMPLETED WORK, IN, THROUGH and BY JESUS CHRIST.

HOW GREAT IS THIS? HOW WONDERFUL IS THIS?????

THE GOOD NEWS IS: 1 Corinthians 1:30-31 BY HIS DOING YOU ARE "IN" (Greek: **our fixed position**) **CHRIST JESUS, who BECAME TO US WISDOM from GOD, RIGHTEOUSNESS, SANCTIFICATION and REDEMPTION 31 so LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD.** FOR THOSE **"IN CHRIST"** EVERYTHING IS TAKEN CARE OF, SALVATION, OUR DESTINY, OUR ETERNAL LIFE, IS ALL OF AND BY THE LORD JESUS CHRIST and our HEAVENLY FATHER.

John 15:13 GREATER LOVE HAS NO ONE THAN THIS, THAT ONE LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS. YOU ARE THAT SPECIAL, THAT VALUABLE and LOVED BY JESUS and your FATHER.

Back to: **Ephesians 2:5-9 By GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED 6 AND (STEP #16) RAISED US UP (Aorist) "WITH" HIM AND (STEP #17) SEATED US (Aorist) "WITH" HIM IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES (because we are) "IN" CHRIST JESUS OUR FIXED POSITION.**

IT IS ALL DONE, PAID FOR ACCOMPLISHED, FINISHED.

In ETERNITY WHERE THERE IS NO TIME, **YOU HAVE BEEN RAISED UP WITH HIM. HIS RESURRECTION IS OUR RESURRECTION. YOU ARE ALREADY SEATED WITH HIM.** Our FATHER WILL NEVER SAY "I MADE A MISTAKE" AND UNSEAT SOMEONE. **HE DOES NOT MAKE MISTAKES. 7 SO THAT IN THE AGES TO COME HE MIGHT SHOW THE SURPASSING RICHES OF HIS GRACE IN KINDNESS TOWARD US "IN" CHRIST JESUS. 8 FOR BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED BY FAITH; AND THAT (FAITH) IS NOT OF YOURSELVES, IT (FAITH) (STEP #18) is the GIFT OF GOD; 9 NOT AS A RESULT OF WORKS, THAT NO ONE MAY BOAST.** If FAITH was of or from us we would have something to boast about.

- **Titus 3:5 HE SAVED US,** (Aorist at a point in the past) **NOT on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to HIS MERCY**
- **Romans 12:3 GOD HAS "GIVEN" TO EACH A MEASURE OF FAITH**
- **Galatians 3:23 BUT BEFORE "FAITH CAME," WE WERE KEPT IN CUSTODY UNDER THE LAW, BEING SHUT UP TO THE FAITH WHICH WAS LATER TO "BE REVEALED".** WE were HIS CHILDREN BEFORE FAITH EVER CAME.
- **2 Peter 1:1 TO THOSE WHO HAVE "RECEIVED" A FAITH THE SAME KIND AS OURS. WHO ARE THEY? Acts 13:48 AS MANY AS HAD BEEN APPOINTED TO ETERNAL LIFE BELIEVED.** And 1 Corinthians 4:7

FAITH DOES NOT ORIGINATE FROM WITHIN US, IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD TO US. ETERNAL SALVATION IS TOTALLY AND COMPLETELY OF THE LORD!!

WHAT WE CANNOT DO, **HE HAS DONE FOR US**. And, **HE ALSO CAUSED US TO BE BORN AGAIN**.

1 Peter 1:3-9 BLESSED BE THE GOD AND FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, WHO ACCORDING TO HIS GREAT MERCY (STEP #19) HAS CAUSED US TO BE BORN AGAIN TO A LIVING HOPE *THROUGH THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD. The RESURRECTION is the PROOF THAT OUR SIN WAS FORGIVEN. *Greek: the channel of an act.

We **DIED with HIM**. We were **RAISED with HIM**. **HIS RESURRECTION WAS ALSO OUR RESURRECTION, OUR SIN WAS FORGIVEN AND THEREFORE WE COULD BE BORN AGAIN** and THE **HOLY SPIRIT COME INTO US** BECAUSE WE ARE IN THE EYES OF OUR FATHER, **HOLY** and **BLAMELESS**. Ephesians 1:3 Therefore, **AFTER HIS RESURRECTION and SIN FORGIVEN, JESUS could now appear to HIS Disciples and Breathed on them and SAID, RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT. John 20:21-22.**

And the Disciples were **BORN AGAIN** on RESURRECTION DAY.

The HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD, AND GOD IS LOVE, SO WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES INTO US, (STEP #20) THE LOVE OF GOD IS POURED OUT WITHIN OUR HEARTS BY THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO WAS GIVEN TO US. Romans 5:5

GOD'S LOVE IS IN THE HEART OF EVERY BORN-AGAIN BELIEVER. OUR FATHER HAS GIVEN US EVERYTHING WE NEED FOR SALVATION. THEREFORE, **WE LOVE HIM. AND THAT LOVE WILL BE THE MOTIVATION, EMPOWERING US TO PERSEVERE** under TRIALS and RECEIVE "The CROWN of LIFE" that is PROMISED to those who **LOVE HIM. James 1:2 & 12**

2 Corinthians 5:14 AND, IT IS THE LOVE OF CHRIST THAT COMPELS AND CONTROLS US. (Greek) Therefore **1 Timothy 1:5 LOVE IS THE GOAL OF OUR INSTRUCTION.** It CAPTURES THE HEARTS of HIS.

2 Chronicles 16:9 FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD SEARCH BACK AND FORTH THROUGHOUT THE EARTH THAT HE MAY STRONGLY SUPPORT THOSE WHOSE HEART IS COMPLETELY HIS. A GOOD EXAMPLE: **Acts 13:22 I HAVE FOUND DAVID, A MAN AFTER MY HEART, WHO WILL DO ALL MY WILL.**

HIS LOVE IS IN OUR HEART and so is **our love** for SO MANY OTHER THINGS. We need to pray **PSALM 51:10 CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART OH GOD. CLEAN OUT THE TRASH. Say "NO" to SIN and "YES" to JESUS.**

Every step above **has been done FOR US**, BY OUR FATHER. ALL THAT HE HAS DONE FOR US, SHOULD BE **MOTIVATION** ENOUGH TO PLACE **HIS LOVE FAR ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE IN OUR HEART AND LIFE.**

1 John 4:16-18 WE HAVE COME TO KNOW AND HAVE BELIEVED THE LOVE WHICH GOD HAS FOR US. GOD IS LOVE, AND THE ONE WHO ABIDES IN LOVE ABIDES "IN" GOD (a fixed position) **AND GOD ABIDES "IN" HIM** (a fixed position). **17 BY THIS, OUR LOVE IS PERFECTED SO THAT WE MAY HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE DAY OF JUDGMENT.** (BECAUSE WE KNOW HE ABIDES IN US) **BECAUSE AS HE IS** (A GOD OF LOVE) **SO ALSO ARE WE IN THIS WORLD. (FULL OF HIS LOVE) 18 THERE IS NO FEAR IN LOVE; PERFECT LOVE CASTS OUT FEAR** (of being rejected or judged or persecuted) **BECAUSE FEAR BRINGS TORMENT AND THE ONE WHO FEARS IS NOT "PERFECTED" IN LOVE.** Because he does **not KNOW AND BELIEVE THE LOVE GOD HAS FOR US.** And **THIS IS OUR MINISTRY**, THAT **ALL** MAY COME TO **KNOW** and **BELIEVE** THE **LOVE** OUR **FATHER** and **JESUS HAVE FOR US** AS SHOWN IN ALL THAT THEY HAVE DONE **FOR US. GREATER LOVE has no one than this.**

HE HAS POURED HIS LOVE INTO OUR HEARTS, but WE MUST WORK AT **PERFECTING IT.** THAT IS: **CHOOSING TO LET GOD'S LOVE FLOW OUT OF US IN EVERY SITUATION. WE LOVE BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US. 1 John 4:19**

1 John 4:7-8 BELOVED, LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER, FOR LOVE IS FROM GOD; AND EVERYONE WHO LOVES IS BORN OF GOD AND KNOWS GOD. 8 THE ONE WHO DOES NOT LOVE DOES NOT KNOW GOD, FOR GOD IS LOVE.

1 Samuel 16:7 MAN LOOKS AT THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE (and makes judgements) **BUT THE LORD LOOKS AT THE HEART.** And **HE SEES HIS LOVE in the Heart of all HIS CHILDREN.** Therefore, **NOT ONE OF HIS CHILDREN,** regardless of how much he loves or does not love, or whatever he does or does not do, **WILL MISS ETERNAL LIFE. IT IS BOUGHT AND PAID FOR,**

FINISHED AND DONE, THROUGH, FOR AND BY JESUS OUR LORD AND SAVIOR AND GOD OUR FATHER.

GOD our FATHER is **LOVE** and **LOVE NEVER FAILS**. **HIS UNFAILING LOVE IS IN OUR HEART AND OUR FAITH WORKS THROUGH LOVE.** (Galatians 5:6)

Therefore **OUR FAITH WILL NEVER COMPLETELY FAIL**. EXAMPLE: PETER DENYING THE LORD THREE TIMES.

GOD SO LOVED . . . THAT HE GAVE. HIS LOVE PRODUCED THE ACTION OF GIVING. AND HE GAVE THE GREATEST GIFT THAT COULD EVER POSSIBLY BE GIVEN, **HIS SON**. AND, ALL THESE BLESSINGS TO US and FOR US. HE LOVES US THAT MUCH. As our LOVE for JESUS GROWS, OUR LOVE FOR WHAT HE LOVES – > **PEOPLE** <- GROWS. We begin to see **THEIR VALUE** AND WE BEGIN TO **LOVE OTHERS AS OURSELVES**.

As Paul told Timothy 1:5 **THE GOAL** (of all pastors ministers, every one of us) **OF OUR INSTRUCTION** is **LOVE** FROM A PURE HEART, A GOOD CONSCIENCE AND A **SINCERE FAITH**. 1 Timothy 1:5 This should be the result of our ministry to others

BACK TO: 1 PETER 1:3 ACCORDING TO HIS GREAT MERCY HAS CAUSED US TO BE BORN AGAIN TO A LIVING HOPE THROUGH THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD. TO (STEP #21) OBTAIN AN INHERITANCE (goes to family) WHICH IS IMPERISHABLE AND UNDEFILED AND WILL NOT FADE AWAY, RESERVED IN HEAVEN FOR YOU, 5 WHO ARE (STEP #22) PROTECTED BY THE POWER OF GOD THROUGH FAITH (A GIFT) FOR A SALVATION READY TO BE REVEALED IN THE LAST TIME. 6 IN THIS YOU GREATLY REJOICE, EVEN THOUGH NOW FOR A LITTLE WHILE, IF NECESSARY, YOU HAVE BEEN DISTRESSED BY VARIOUS TRIALS, 7 SO THAT THE PROOF OF YOUR FAITH, BEING MORE PRECIOUS THAN GOLD WHICH IS PERISHABLE, EVEN THOUGH TESTED BY FIRE, MAY BE FOUND TO RESULT IN PRAISE AND GLORY AND HONOR AT THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST; 8 AND THOUGH YOU HAVE NOT SEEN HIM, YOU LOVE HIM, AND THOUGH YOU DO NOT SEE HIM NOW, BUT BELIEVE IN HIM, YOU GREATLY REJOICE WITH JOY INEXPRESSIBLE AND

FULL OF GLORY, 9 OBTAINING AS THE OUTCOME OF YOUR FAITH (WHICH HE GAVE TO YOU) THE SALVATION OF YOUR SOUL.

James 1:2-4 COUNT IT ALL JOY, MY BRETHREN, WHEN YOU ENCOUNTER VARIOUS TRIALS, 3 KNOWING THAT THE TESTING OF YOUR FAITH PRODUCES ENDURANCE. 4 AND LET ENDURANCE HAVE ITS PERFECT WORK, SO THAT YOU MAY BE PERFECT AND COMPLETE, LACKING NOTHING. Trials and **Tribulations** along **the pathway** strengthen, increase, and reveal the **LEVEL** of our **FAITH** and **MATURITY**. WE COULD SAY THAT **IT IS A PATHWAY TO SONSHIP.**
Hebrews 12:2-3 fixing our eyes on JESUS, the AUTHOR and PERFECTER of FAITH, who for the JOY set before HIM ENDURED THE CROSS, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the THRONE of GOD. 3 CONSIDER HIM who has ENDURED such hostility by sinners against HIMSELF, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT GROW WEARY AND LOSE HEART. NASU

James 1:12 BLESSED IS A MAN WHO PERSEVERES UNDER TRIAL; FOR ONCE HE HAS BEEN APPROVED, HE WILL RECEIVE THE CROWN OF LIFE (at the end of the path) THE LORD HAS PROMISED TO THOSE WHO LOVE HIM. As a **Believer YOU LOVE HIM. HE POURED HIS LOVE INTO YOUR HEART. Romans 5:5**

Romans 5:3-4 WE REJOICE IN OUR TRIBULATIONS, KNOWING THAT TRIBULATION BRINGS ABOUT PERSEVERANCE; 4 AND PERSEVERANCE, PROVEN CHARACTER (Changed into HIS LIKENESS) AND PROVEN CHARACTER, HOPE. 5 and hope does not disappoint, because the LOVE of GOD has been poured out within our hearts through the HOLY SPIRIT who was given to us. NASU

Romans 5:9-10 MUCH MORE THEN, HAVING NOW (STEP #23) BEEN JUSTIFIED (just as if we had never sinned) BY HIS BLOOD, (THIS GREAT PRICE IS HOW MUCH HE LOVES US. GUARANTING THAT) WE SHALL BE SAVED FROM THE WRATH OF GOD THROUGH HIM. FOR IF WHILE WE WERE ENEMIES (rejecting HIM) WE WERE (step #24) RECONCILED (aorist tense, at a point in the past, restored to a right relationship) TO GOD THROUGH THE DEATH OF HIS SON,

THE RESURRECTION PROVED HIS BLOOD SACRIFICE WAS ACCEPTED, AND AT THAT POINT WE ALSO, **IN CHRIST**, WERE **ACCEPTED, RECONCILED TO GOD AND RAISED UP "WITH" HIM** Ephesians 2:5

THE GREATEST PRICE THAT COULD POSSIBLY BE PAID IN ALL CREATION BY OUR FATHER AND BY HIS SON. **THE PRICE DETERMINES THE VALUE** OF THOSE HE CHOSE TO ENJOY A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH HIMSELF. **10 MUCH MORE, HAVING BEEN RECONCILED WE SHALL BE SAVED BY HIS LIFE.** WE ARE **"IN" HIM.**

Hebrews 9:12 THROUGH HIS OWN BLOOD, HE ENTERED THE HOLY PLACE ONCE FOR ALL, HAVING OBTAINED (STEP #25) ETERNAL REDEMPTION REDEEM -> to PAY THE PRICE REQUIRED TO BUY BACK WHAT **BELONGED TO YOU. WE ALWAYS BELONGED TO JESUS AND OUR FATHER.** HE LOVES US SO MUCH HE WAS **WILLING** TO PAY THE PRICE REQUIRED TO **REDEEM US** FROM THE WAGES OF SIN AND DEATH BY GIVING WHAT HE LOVED AND VALUED **ABOVE ALL** THAT HE HAD, **HIS SON JESUS to REDEEM US.**

John 3:16 FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. The only requirement for **ETERNAL LIFE is: WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM.** Who Believes in HIM? Those that HE PREDESTINED.

ROMANS 8:30-35 WHOM HE PREDESTINED (aorist) **THESE HE ALSO (STEP #26) CALLED** (aorist) **AND WHOM HE CALLED THESE HE ALSO JUSTIFIED** (aorist) **AND WHOM HE JUSTIFIED HE ALSO (STEP #27) GLORIFIED.** (aorist) **31 WHAT THEN SHALL WE SAY TO THESE THINGS? IF GOD IS FOR US, WHO IS AGAINST US? 32 HE WHO DID NOT SPARE HIS OWN SON, BUT GAVE HIM UP FOR "US" ALL (HE is writing to believers) HOW WILL HE NOT ALSO WITH HIM FREELY GIVE US ALL THINGS? 33 WHO WILL BRING A CHARGE AGAINST GOD'S ELECT? GOD IS THE ONE WHO JUSTIFIES; 34 WHO IS THE ONE WHO CONDEMNS? CHRIST JESUS IS HE WHO DIED, WHO WAS RAISED,**

WHO IS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, WHO ALSO (STEP #28) **INTERCEDES** FOR US. 35 WHO WILL SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF CHRIST? WILL TRIBULATION, OR DISTRESS, OR PERSECUTION, OR FAMINE, OR NAKEDNESS, OR PERIL, OR SWORD? 37 BUT IN ALL THESE THINGS WE OVERWHELMINGLY CONQUER THROUGH HIM WHO LOVES US. 38 FOR I AM CONVINCED THAT NEITHER DEATH, NOR LIFE, NOR ANGELS, NOR PRINCIPALITIES, NOR THINGS PRESENT, NOR THINGS TO COME, NOR POWERS, 39 NOR HEIGHT, NOR DEPTH, NOT ANY OTHER CREATED THING, WILL BE ABLE TO SEPARATE US FROM THE **LOVE OF GOD**, WHICH IS IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD. YES AND AMEN! GOD ALMIGHTY IS SOVEREIGN.

Romans 15:4 So, all of the above that: WAS WRITTEN IN EARLIER TIMES WAS WRITTEN FOR OUR INSTRUCTION, SO THAT THROUGH PERSEVERANCE AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE SCRIPTURES WE MIGHT KNOW THAT WE HAVE AND WILL ARRIVE AT OUR DESTINATION OF ETERNAL LIFE. AND WE SHALL FOREVER BE WITH THE LORD. YOU ARE THAT SPECIAL, VALUABLE and LOVED BY HIM. HE DID IT ALL FOR YOU. THANK YOU FATHER! THANK YOU JESUS!

SO, BE AT PEACE. HAVE NO FEAR. ETERNAL LIFE IS YOURS IF YOU ARE A BELIEVER. AND EVERYTHING YOU HAVE NEED OF FOR SALVATION HAS **ALREADY BEEN PAID, GIVEN AND ASSURED** BY YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER. HIS **GRACE**, MOTIVATED by **HIS LOVE** FOR HIS CHILDREN, HAS LED US TO "THE SMALL GATE," **HE** OPENED IT, AND **HE** LED US ALONG "THE NARROW PATHWAY" TO **ETERNAL LIFE. REJOICE** AND BE GLAD, **GIVE THANKS UNTO HIM** FOR HIS **LOVE** AND **GRACE** WHICH HE HAS **LAVISHED** ON US.

SALVATION IS OF THE LORD.

THE STAGES OF SALVATION

- ❖ **WE HAVE BEEN SAVED (Past Tense)** FROM THE **PENALTY** of Sin and therefore HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. All our sins have been forgiven: 2 Corinthians 5:18-21 Ephesians 2:8-9 John 5:24 Hebrews 9:12; 10:10, 14 & 17 Luke 7:48 & 50 1 Corinthians 1:21; 15:2 2 Timothy 1:9 Titus 3:5
 - This is COMPLETELY **HIS RESPONSIBILITY**. AND **HE HAS DONE IT**.
- ❖ **WE ARE BEING SAVED (Present Tense)** FROM THE **POWER** of SIN and evil.
 - BY OUR KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S WORD AND OBEDIENCE.
 - This is **OUR RESPONSIBILITY** 1 Corinthians 1:18 Philippians 2:12-13
- ❖ **WE SHALL BE SAVED (Future Tense)** FROM THE **PRESENCE** of SIN and the evil in this world. At the last trumpet. 1 Corinthians 15:51-58 Romans 5:9-10
 - **HIS RESPONSIBILITY**

ETERNAL SALVATION IS **100 PRECENT OF THE LORD** FOR HIS CHILDREN, HIS SEED. NOT ONE OF HIS CHILDREN WILL PERISH.

2 Peter 1:2-3 GRACE and PEACE be multiplied to you in the KNOWLEDGE OF GOD and of JESUS our LORD; 3 seeing that HIS DIVINE POWER has GRANTED to us EVERYTHING PERTAINING TO LIFE AND GODLINESS, through the TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF HIM who called us by HIS own GLORY and EXCELLENCE. TO THE PRAISE OF THE GLORY OF HIS GRACE WHICH HE HAS BLESSED US WITH SPECIAL HONOR IN THE BELOVED.
Ephesians 1:6 Greek

Jude 24-25 **NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO KEEP YOU FROM STUMBLING, AND TO MAKE YOU STAND IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS GLORY BLAMELESS WITH GREAT JOY**, 25 TO THE ONLY GOD OUR SAVIOR, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, BE GLORY, MAJESTY, DOMINION, AND AUTHORITY, BEFORE ALL TIME AND NOW AND FOREVER. AMEN.

Ephesians 3:16-19 **THAT HE WOULD GRANT YOU, ACCORDING TO THE RICHES OF HIS GLORY, TO BE STRENGTHENED WITH POWER THROUGH HIS SPIRIT IN THE INNER MAN, 17 SO THAT CHRIST MAY DWELL IN YOUR HEARTS THROUGH FAITH; AND THAT YOU, BEING ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE, 18 MAY BE ABLE TO COMPREHEND WITH ALL THE SAINTS WHAT IS THE BREADTH AND LENGTH AND HEIGHT AND DEPTH, 19 AND TO KNOW THE LOVE OF CHRIST WHICH SURPASSES KNOWLEDGE, THAT YOU MAY BE FILLED UP TO ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD.**

AMEN