

March 11th 2007: Holy Spirit Series: Eph 1:1-14: The Power of Five

I've entitled....The Power of Five...because today I want to talk about 5 powerful words.....**associated with** the Spirit's presence in....believer **5 Truths**....that empower us to stand for God.....against all that the devil throws at us.

*You may recall that when David went....he picked up.....not one but 5
Not because he might miss.....But because Goliath had 4 brothers...
In a similar way I believe ...God equips us with these 5 powerful truths
That will defeat all the lies....that the powers of darkness....ever bombard us with
...re our relationship with God*

The first Word is ADOPTION

We read in Romans 8: 15-17.....

The Greek says quite clearly.....received the spirit of adoption
Made up of two words.....→.Son.....to place

Together they mean that the place and condition of a son...given.... to one to whom it does not naturally belong

Roman Society in Paul's time practiced this regularly

A Master.....may well adopt a cherished slave.....

It was quite common for the Emperor...to adopt his successor....

Such an adoption carried along with it.....the right of inheritance....position....power Authority

*Imagine for a momenta rich an import Master
His slave is well treated....respected.....a good worker...part of the family..but*

*Then comes the Day when the Master says.....I have decided to adopt you as my son
This is much more than just bearing my name
You will have the right....the power...position....of being the joint heir with.....*

From that moment on....he would be looked at....treated differently from before

• **This is what God has done for us who believe**

The Spirit within is...God's sign to us....that we are adopted into....as heirs...

And it is the Spirit within....who bears...enables us to cry out to God....Abba Father

The evil one.....will do his best.....to cast doubt in our minds.....love of God for us as our Father.....*If God is truly such a.....Then why does He allow.....*

In response we point to the fact of our adoption

He has taken us sinners into His family.....given us a position....of sons and daughters
And nothing can ever change that....That's how much He loves us

- **And now the Angels.....**The creation itself.....powers of evil..
see us and treat us differently:::::**We are adopted children of Almighty God**

Galatians 4:6-7.....

THE SECOND WORD IS SEAL

Ephesians 1:13.....2 Corinthians 1:21-22

Seal is a property word

It speaks of belonging.....**The HS is given**....to identify us as belonging to Jesus

- **But** as well as ownership...speaks of Security.....Destination

The One who has placed His seal upon us.....

Has by that act promised us security....for we are His property
And a promised eternal destination.....**For his seal**....speaks of His plans for us

*(My first job....bank.....We actually had wax.....and the seal of the bank
It proclaimed....this document belongs to the bank....Do not open w/out banks
permission.....Do not tamper.....or seek to destroy it
Treat it with respect.....For it is supported with the might of the National....)*

- **THE THIRD WORD IS DEPOSIT**.....

Eph 1:14 speaking of the work of HS says.....2 Corinthians 5:5 says.....

Where **SEAL** is a Property word.....**DEPOSIT** is a Prophetic word
The gift of the HS today.....looks forward to the greater gift God has for us..

The Holy Spirit in me.....is God's promise....of even greater blessings to come

There are times when the Spirit gives me a real sense of Joy

And such is just a preview....of a joy to come....similar.....but so much greater

- **In prayer** at times.....He gives me such a sense of closeness....And one day that

I'm told that modern Greeks use.....same word.....for an engagement ring

The Holy Spirit.....is the pledge of a blessing to come

He is to us like the ring on the finger of the Bride to be

A sign within us.....of that Day when we will be united with Father-Son-HS...forever

- **THE FOURTH WORD IS FIRSTFRUITS**

Romans 8:22-23.....

The word Firstfruit comes from farming

If the first fruits are good.....then the main crop will be good as well

Because of the bad things that happen in our world...The Weakness that plagues lives

We groan as believers says Paul

We yearn to see the Day when God will finally triumph

When evil will be no more

We want so much to serve the Lord.....but feel that we do so little

The devil whispers in our ears....It will never happen

Things will just get worst and worst.....

He reminds us of our own shortcomings....

Of that badness in us....that so often takes over

- **But God has given us the Spirit within.....**He is changing us already

At times it might seem so small.....But when we look back on what we were

We see the change that God has brought about already

- **And we also see how the Spirit has used us**

To bring comfort to those burdened by pain.....Give direction to those going astray

How he has placed us in the right place at the Right time

Led us to make a stand against injustice.....To support the Oppressed ...help the weak

If this is what the Spirit is doing now

Just imagine what He has in store for us in glory.....Now is just the Firstfruits of...

- **THE FIFTH WORD IS CONVICTION**

1 Thess 1:4-5.....

The message:→

*It is clear to us, friends, that God not only loves you very much
but also has put His hand on you for something special.*

When the Message we preached came to you, it wasn't just words.

Something happened in you. The Holy Spirit put steel in your convictions.

What this is saying.....Is that because the HS is in us.....when we speak about Jesus
There is a sense of conviction in what we say

- **→Isn't it true.....**that Sometimes we hesitate to speak about Jesus....

Because we feel we don't have all the answers....We feel we don't know enough

And the devil smiles.....Because he well knows....and shudders at the thought
That the conviction the HS gives to our words.....worth more than all the knowledge..

(Last Tuesday.....Testimonies.....The testimony of the Blind man to the Pharisees....)

That conviction....is the promise of the Spirit for our words

And it relates directly to the Assurance He gives us.....that we areGod's children

Romans 8:16 tells us:

The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

The Message paraphrases it:

God's Spirit touches our spirits and confirms who we really are.

We know who He is, and we know who we are: Father and children.

Elaine rang me up....Check on my title...It seemed rather strange one....

for a sermon on.....And perhaps it is

But I trust you can now see.....What wonderful power there is.....in each one

Of these 5 powerful reasons God had....for giving you and me.....

Believers thro

The wonderful Indwelling of God the Holy Spirit.

