

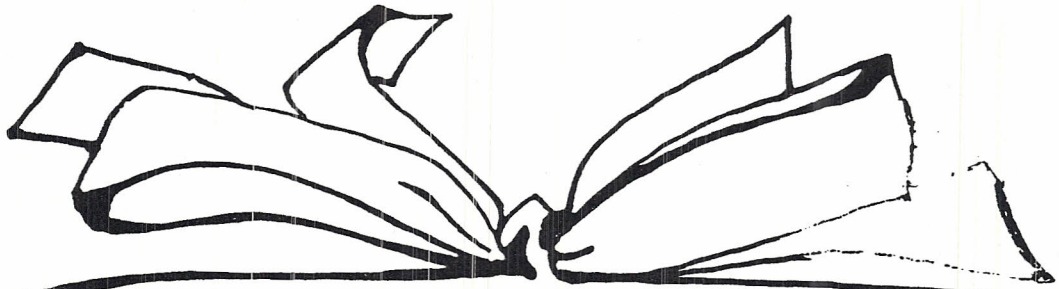
DOCTRINAL NOTES

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THE RICHES OF DIVINE GRACE

These thirty-three positions and possessions are not bestowed in succession, but simultaneously. They do not require a period of time for their execution; but are wrought instantaneously. They measure the present difference which obtains between one who is saved and one who is not saved. Lewis Sperry Chafer, Systematic Theology, Vol. 3, p. 234.

1. In the eternal plan of God (Foreknowledge, Predestination and Election).
2. Redeemed (Rom. 3:24; Gal. 3:13-14; 4:4-5).
3. Reconciled (2 Cor. 5:19-21).
4. Related to God through Propitiation (I John 2:2; 4:10; Rom. 3:25).
5. Forgiven all trespasses (Col. 2:13; Eph. 1:7; 4:32; Col. 1:14; 3:13).
6. Vitally co-joined to Christ for the judgment of the old man "unto a new walk". (Rom. 6:1-10; Col. 2:12).
7. Free from the law (John 1:17; Acts 15:24-29; Rom. 6:14; 7:2-6; 8:2; 2 Cor. 3:6-13; Gal. 3:25; 5:18).
8. Children of God (John 1:12-13; I Pet. 1:23).
9. Adopted (Eph. 1:4-5; Rom. 8:23).
10. Acceptable to God by Jesus Christ (Eph. 1:6; I Pet. 2:5; Heb. 10:14; Col. 1:12).
11. Justified (Rom. 3:24-30; 4:5; 5:1; Gal. 3:11).
12. Made nigh (Eph. 2:13).
13. Delivered from the power of darkness (Col. 1:13; 2 Cor. 4:3-4; Eph. 2:1-2; I John 5:19; Eph. 6:10-12; Acts 26:18).
14. Translated into the Kingdom of the Son of His love (Col. 1:13; I Thess. 2:12; 2 Pet. 1:11; John 3:5).
15. On the Rock, Christ Jesus (Matt. 7:24-27; I Cor. 3:9-15).
16. A gift from God the Father to Christ (John 10:29; 17:2, 6 (twice), 9, 11, 12, 24; Ps. 2:6-9).
17. Circumcises in Christ (Eph. 2:11; Col. 2:11).
18. Partakers of the holy and royal priesthood (I Pet. 2:5, 9; Rev. 1:6; 5:10).
19. A chosen generation, a holy nation, a peculiar people (I Pet. 2:9).
20. Heavenly citizens (Phil. 3:20; Luke 10:20; Heb. 12:22; Eph. 2:19; 2 Cor. 5:8; I Pet. 2:11; 2 Cor. 5:20).
21. Of the family and household of God (Eph. 2:19; Gal. 6:10; 2 Tim. 2:19-21).
22. In the fellowship of the saints (John 17:11, 21-23; Eph. 4:1-3).
23. A heavenly association in life (Col. 1:27; 3:4; I John 5:11-12); in position (Col. 3:1; Eph. 2:6); in service (I Cor. 1:9; 15:58; 3:9; 2 Cor. 3:6; 6:4) in suffering (2 Tim. 2:12; Phil. 1:29; I Pet. 4:12-13; Col. 1:24; Rom. 8:18, I Thess. 3:3); in prayer (John 14:12-14); in betrothal (2 Cor. 11:2; Eph. 5:25-27) and in expectation (Tit. 2:13; Heb. 10:13).
24. Having access to God (Rom. 5:2; Eph. 2:18; Heb. 4:16; 10:19-20).
25. Within the "much more" case of God (Rom. 5:8-10; 8:32).
26. His inheritance (Eph. 1:18; John 17:22; Rom. 8:30; Col. 3:4).
27. The inheritance of the saints (I Pet. 1:4; Eph. 1:14; Col. 3:24; Heb. 9:15).
28. Light in the Lord (Eph. 5:8; I John 1:7; John 8:12).
29. Vitally united to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit (I Thess. 1:1; Eph. 4:6; Rom. 8:1; John 14:20; Rom. 8:9; I Cor. 2:12).
30. Blessed with the earnest or first-fruits of the Spirit (2 Cor. 1:22; Rom. 8:23).
31. Glorified (Rom. 4:17; 8:18, 30; Col. 3:4).
32. Complete in Him (Col. 2:9-10).
33. Possessing every spiritual blessing (Eph. 1:3).



34 THINGS HAPPENED WHEN YOU WERE SAVED

1. You became part of God's eternal plan (Rom. 8:28,29).
2. Your friendship with God was restored by Christ ("Reconciled" - Col. 1:20; Rom. 5:10).
3. Your sin-debt was paid ("Redeemed" - 1 Pet. 1:18).
4. You are no longer condemned (John 3:18; Rom. 8:1).
5. You have come under God's mercy instead of God's judgment ("Propitiation" - 1 John 2:2).
6. Your sins were taken away (1 Pet. 2:24).
7. You are "dead" to the old way of life and can live the Christian way of life (Rom. 6:4,8).
8. You no longer live by "the ten commandments" but by grace (Rom. 6:14).
9. You are a child of God (Gal. 3:26).
10. Adopted into God's family (Rom. 8:15).
11. Acceptable to God (Eph. 1:6).
12. You were declared righteous in God's sight (Tit. 3:7).
13. You were forgiven (Col. 1:14).
14. Brought near to God (Eph. 2:13).
15. Rescued from Satan's power (Col. 1:13a).
16. Moved into the kingdom of God's Son (Col. 1:13b).
17. You were put on a solid foundation (Eph. 2:20).
18. God gave you to Christ (John 10:29).
19. You were purified from sin (Col. 2:11).
20. You are a priest and king (Rev. 1:6).
21. A chosen and protected person (1 Pet. 2:9; Tit. 2:14).
22. You can now approach God (Heb. 4:16).
23. You are under God's "much more" care (Rom. 5:9,10).
24. You are God's possession (Eph. 1:18).
25. You are God's heir (1 Pet. 1:4).
26. Christ's junior partner (1 Cor. 1:9).
27. A citizen of heaven (Luke 10:20).
28. In God's household (Eph. 2:19).
29. You are "light" in the Lord (Eph. 5:8).
30. You are "in union" with Christ (John 14:20).
31. You were: born again, baptized, indwelt and sealed by the Holy Spirit (John 3:6; 1 Cor. 6:19; 12:13; Eph. 4:30).
32. You are glorified (will have a resurrection body - Rom. 8:30).
33. Complete in Him (Col. 2:10).
34. You own every spiritual blessing (Eph 1:3).

Friday, November 21, 1980

Our Riches in Christ

I have been taking stock of my riches, trying to decide which are the most precious.

Material blessings? Somehow as I draw nearer the end of my life's course, these grow dim and unreal. Youth, beauty, health, wealth? I haven't any of these. True and tried friends? O, precious beyond measure! Beauties of nature? I do thank my Lord for these. No matter how sick and sorrowful I am, His stars shine steadfastly at night, His good sun warms me by day. A land where we are free to worship God? Yes, but a land which has largely forgotten Him. Loved ones? O yes, and thank God those closest to me are saved so we cannot be parted long.

But since man apart from God is but an abnormal creature, our greatest joys, our deepest satisfactions, come in our relationship with Him. So I thank Him for sins forgiven, for the precious shed blood of Christ which washed me clean, for a great High Priest touched with a feeling for my infirmities, for the privilege of being a tool in His mighty hand, for His guidance, for His ear that hears my prayers, for His arm on which to lean, for His wondrous Word in which He speaks to us explicitly, and for the blessed hope of His soon coming!

I thank Him more than all else for utter safety. In the past I have known what it was to be afraid but now I know that I have come into a safe harbor. Nothing, absolutely nothing, not my own deeds nor those of others, not the work of devils; not circumstance nor so-called fate, NOTHING can separate me from the love of Christ!

Pain, sorrow and bereavement can come, shattered nerves and broken body can be my lot, death can even put my body into the grave, but whatever comes, it passes first through His tender hands, and so I can love it because it comes from Him.

NOTHING can keep me out of Heaven—I am as safe now as though I were already there. Just these few hard years to live, these few burdens to bear, and then to be forever with Him, our daily portion glory beyond infinite glory! Thankful? My cheeks are wet with happy tears. Why He gives all this to a poor creature like me I do not know, but I know I shall need all eternity in which to thank Him for it.

—Martha Snell Nicholson.