

Ephesian 1:4-19

The book of Ephesians was written for believers who were rich beyond measure in Jesus Christ but living as beggars or paupers because they didn't know they were wealthy. Why didn't they know they were wealthy, because they, just like us, didn't see wealth in spiritual things? They, just like us, saw wealth as something tangible/seeable, such as having a great deal of money, and abundance of resources or services, or assets such as your home or car which can be converted into cash quickly.

How do you feel about your spiritual wealth? Do you feel wealthy? It is not just about having daily Bible study or having a strong prayer life. It isn't about giving to the poor, and speaking life into a dying life, or who you have led to Christ. Don't get me wrong, all these things are good, because God commands us to do them. But God expects us to draw on our spiritual bank account and not doing things of our own strength. So is your spiritual account full, half empty, or completely empty. It should be full, right. It should never run dry.

Knowing your spiritual bank account determines how you live and how you reach your destiny or whether you will reach your destiny. And I say that sincerely about reaching our destiny. This journey we are taking to reach our destiny requires us to draw upon our spiritual bank account? We set out on a journey – we have direction, hope, purpose and determination. But like any journey you need to have something to draw on – in this case it is your spiritual bank account, not your physical bank account. It is not just about you reading the bible and

praying daily. But drawing on your spiritual bank account will help you overcome the obstacles, bumps, potholes, slippery slopes, and surprises life will throw at you to deter you from your destiny. But like your current bank account and assets which you can turn into liquid cash, so is your spiritual account and assets. You are able to draw on them immediately. And guess what, your bank account will never have an overdraft, never be on \$1. It will always be full.

Spiritual blessings are to strengthen your inner man – our spirit man. They are the benefits of having a relationship with Christ and having a victorious life rather than a defeated life. A defeated life means you have a weak spirit and will lead to a life full of complaining, floundering, stumbling, staggering, and self-pity. Decisions based on how we feel, and what we know, not on who we are in Christ. But Paul lets us know we don't have to live like that. God has provided us with all spiritual blessing stored up in heavenly places in Christ. Something more powerful than our feelings. The bottom line is the spiritual blessings mentioned in verses 4 – 19 will help us overcome and control the oppressive circumstances of your life. They are not temporal or physical. These are the blessings that give us an over abundant life and makes life worth living.

So, what are the spiritual blessings Paul talks about in this chapter? He lists fifteen. In verses 3 – 8 we have been showered with God's kindness, verses 9 – 12 we are chosen for greatness, verses 13 and 14 we are marked with the Holy Spirit, and verses 15 – 19 we are filled with the Spirit and that actually goes through verse 23. But we are only going to look at verses 4 – 19.