



International Conference - Sept. 2022

General Theme: **Our Mission - The Building Up of the Body of Christ**

Message 03: **The Blessing of The Son: Redemption and Headship**

Ephesians 1:7-12

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Word given by brother **Pedro Dong** transmitted by Life For All Institute directly from the Auditorium in São Paulo-SP, on **08/21/2022**. Text not proofread by the author and may contain errors.



Our joy is very great today, as we are receiving all the GTC coordinators and cooperative managers. We've been having great fellowship to align the practice of prophetic word, and thus immerse everyone in the word that the Lord has spoken to us. This generates an organic combustion, because the prophetic word is like fuel that feeds us to carry out God's work. On the streets, colporteurs apply all the content they have received from the prophetic word. Immersion in the word made all the difference, and we all can do that. Actively participating in listening to the messages, always taking notes to capture as much as possible so that you can go crazy for the Lord and for the word!

**We can all be immersed in the burden the Lord has spoken to us, and when we practice together, helping each other, we are edified with each other.** The Lord will only be able to return once we are edified.

### **Eph 1:3; Mt 28**

We were in the burden of Matthew's, where we saw that Christ was anointed to execute His mission and commission: **The mission was to generate the church** through His death and resurrection, and His **commission is to build that church**. After the building of the church, the gates of Hades will not be able to prevail against her. Thus, the kingdom will arise and the church will unite with Christ and **together we will defeat the dominion of the prince of darkness over this age.**

At the end of Matthew 28, Christ passed on the commission to build up the Body of Christ. You are not here only to joyfully attend the meetings and improve your spiritual life, but also to **work, rescue more people from darkness and bring them into the edification of the church**. When serving the Lord in the works, we will be built up one with another and this solid building will defeat the gates of Hades and bring the Lord back.

It is the church that will carry out this great commission that Christ has given us, therefore it should not be merely earthly. **The church, though on earth, is heavenly.** That's why God doesn't expect of her high levels of material or human prosperity, but rather that it produces something of His realm here on earth. The only way He can do that is by **blessing us with all sorts of Spiritual blessings that are in the heavenly regions.**

Some Christian groups preach the gospel of prosperity, of material gain. We are not here for that, but to do the will of God. The way is to receive every spiritual blessing, not to promote organizations and human

skills. If we continue to serve the church in conventional wisdom, as we have always done in past experiences with the knowledge we had until then, we will still do work at the earthly level. **We need to turn to heavenly blessings to build up the church.** None of us men have the capacity to edify the church, but we have the ability to receive blessings, and only with them can we accomplish this work.

### ***The Father's Blessing***

#### **1 Pet 1:2; Rom 9:11**

The Father has blessed us with His choice. Out of so many people, **He chose us to be holy and blameless, and God predestined us according to His good pleasure.** Predestinate, in Greek, means to mark a certain destination. **God chose and marked you!** The people around you may not see this mark, but Satan and the fallen angels do. In this mark it is written, "you are destined for sonship." **Sonship is not merely being a child of God, but also to start living as someone guided by the Spirit of God.** The Spirit guides us in the church life, and by practicing the word He will mature us, so that, in the end, we will be mature children, ready to receive God's inheritance.

When we talk about choice, election and predestination, there is confusion in the minds of Christians. There are two schools of theology, the Calvinist and the Arminian, which interpret the matter differently. The Calvinist asserts that election is fully predetermined by God in a sovereign way. However, the question remains why the Bible quotes so much "seek while you may find"; if we are predestined and we have our predestined path, why seek?

Arminians go to the other extreme: there is total dependence on the works of men in order to be elected. Romans, however, tell us that in God's purpose there is no dependence on the works of men.

However, we find in 1 Peter that **election is according to the foreknowledge of God.** He is not limited in time, and from eternity past he already has foreknowledge of our faith up in my life. I believe He knows before that I will believe.

The "practicing" Jews try very hard to complete the work of God, and they hope to achieve the justice of the law. However, that is not how they will achieve it. The Gentiles, on the contrary, did not care about the righteousness of God and the law, but when they heard about the Lord Jesus and believed, then they received justice.

The difference is believing. How do I know if I have been chosen by the Lord? One day I believed, and when I did, I was marked. As God has foreknowledge, He already knew that one day I would believe, and so, before the foundation of the world, He predestined me. It is not by works, but by faith. We need to walk by faith every day of our life. **Let us continue to serve and live by faith, and then we will receive more of the celestial blessings!**

### ***The Son's Blessing***

#### **Eph 1:6; Col 1:11; Jn 17:4**

Before leading us to the son's blessing, we are told about the praise of His grace and glory. It's common to praise grace, the gift that God has given us. But in the verse it tells us to praise the glory of grace. God has given us grace, Christ himself freely, and so we experience all luck of spiritual blessing in the heavenly regions. What is God's purpose in giving us grace? **He expects a result, which is the glory.**

Glory has strength, it works for a result. The strength of this glory strengthens us, and we must learn to be strengthened in it. **When we go through difficulties and tribulations still we can live with joy, for we have the strength of glory with us.**

**Jn 17:4-5,21-24; Jn 7:37-39**

**The glory is God the Father.** When the Lord entrusts something to the church, and we fulfill it, our work glorifies God. **The glory we give to the Lord comes through actions, when we preach the gospel, when we practice the prophetic word.** Jesus glorified God by doing the work that God had separated for Him.

Before creation existed, in eternity past, the Son was in the glory of the Father, but afterwards He was sent to live on earth. The man Jesus would be a foreign body for the glory of the Father, but in His death and resurrection Jesus was glorified, for God approved of his work, and so **the Spirit was sent to us.**

The grace that God has given us in His beloved Son is meant to strengthen us, to glorify us with all His power. **God's ultimate goal is to insert us into the glory of the Father by uniting the church to the Son - so that all may be one with the Father.** It is crucial that we receive the glory, God himself, as well as being perfected in that unity. The result of unity is love - we begin to love each other. This love is from God, and not manufactured.

Jesus is the beloved son of God. The Father Himself declared this at His baptism and on the mount of transfiguration. **We are all chosen to receive this grace through the Beloved, the son of God.**

**Eph 1:7-8,14; Heb 9:22; 1 Pet 3:18; Rom 5:1-2,16-18; 1 Cor 1:24,30; Prov 8:12,22**

Without the redemption made by Jesus, we would not have access to spiritual blessings in heavenly places, and we would continue in the fall of man. Redemption laid the groundwork for our sins to be forgiven and be justified before God, so that one day we may obtain His glory. **He predestined us to sonship and today gives us abundant grace. This is wonderful!**

In Ephesians 1:8 it is revealed to us that we receive these blessings in all wisdom and prudence. Wisdom is needed to plan and prudence is needed in the execution phase. **Christ is God's wisdom to plan, and Christ is God's prudence to execute.**

What was the plan? Man is the center of the plan. Before the creation of the world, the **Father and the Son lived together, the Son was the Father's delight.** It pleased God to open a space of time to introduce man, for His plan is to place him in that pleasure. **One day we'll be united with the Father as the Son was.** God wanted that man would be able to be inserted through glory in Him, and be able to join in his happiness!

**Eph 1:10-22; Ps 2:1-8**

The story of man has been marked by tragedy followed by tragedy. It was a mystery to all the angels as to why God created the universe, to apparently remain in this chaos. **But He has a will, and that will shall be carried out.** Everything has its origin in the will of God. Christ participated in the project phase and today participates in the execution of the plan according to the will of the Father.

The will of God has always been a mystery, it was not known why God created the universe. However, the revelation of the mystery was given to Paul: **to bring all things together in Christ; to make everything come under the headship of Christ.** This is God's will!

Lucifer thought he would be chosen to rule the nations and be like the Most High, but God rejected him. The world today is under the influence of Satan, a sign we have seen since Nimrod. God, however, chose Christ to govern over all nations; He was chosen to head everything. That headship is ongoing in the universe today. **Christ is at the right hand of the Father in the heavenly places, so God can bless us with every kind of spiritual blessing.**

Where are these heavenly places? **They are above all principality, power and any name that can be given.** Jesus, wrongfully injured on earth, was approved, glorified of God, to head all things, and elevated above all power.

The head of the church has already reached that level, but His body is still on Earth. It is up to the body to complete the reality of the head on Earth. Little by little the body will be filled with heavenly reality from the head. That's why we need to get out of the box! **Traditional service will not do this extraordinary job, for this work is not human, and only God can do it!** That's why the prophetic word has an effect. When we believe, we submit and obey the word, and the word itself does the work. **It is not man doing the work, but God through man.**

#### **Ps 110:1-3**

Who will bring the enemies of the Lord under His feet is the church. We are from Zion: **Zion are the ones who fight for the kingdom of God on earth today.** We are the ones who are not sleeping like the others, but we are ready to fight for the kingdom and for the building up of the Body of Christ. **That Zion will give the scepter of power to the Son.**

In the bosom of the dawn, many young people will appear like drops of dew who are fulfilling the promise. In this final phase we need young people, adolescents and children. They will form the army of holy young ones!

#### **Eph 1:10**

"In the dispensation" means "oikonomia," that is, carrying out God's plan. Everything we talk about choice, predestination and, now, the headship of Christ, **departed from the will of God.** The Son, who knew what the Father wanted, planned and is executing that will today.

**Time is used for God's will to be done; it has a beginning and an end.** Man was created by the breath of God, and thus eternity entered into him. From the earthly body, God wants to produce something divine and eternal. We, who live on earth, are like cocoons for God to create something divine, spiritual, so that, when the gestation ends, this creature is born. Time only works for this: **so that man may be inserted into God and both united, may rejoice forever!**

#### **Rom 8:17-21**

The suffering of the present time cannot be compared with the glory to be revealed in us. When the gestation is over, the **revelation of God's children will take place - when creation is redeemed from the bondage of corruption to the glorious freedom of the children of God!** Then **this creature, which we may call a glorious church, will be able to be united with God.** In this way, time will have served its purpose, and after the millennium we will enter into eternity.

Birth always causes pain, but we await sonship, which is the redemption of our bodies. **Our spirit, soul and body will be filled with glory, and we will be inserted into the glory of God, who is glory itself!**

***Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.***

**Romans 8:23**