

## **Grapes and Giants**

### **(2) Purpose**

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#### **EPHESIANS 1:3-11**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love He predestined us to be adopted as His sons through Jesus Christ in accordance with His pleasure and will to the praise of His glorious grace which He has freely given us in the one He loves.

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In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. And He made known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment to bring all things in heaven and earth together under one head—even Christ.

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In Him, we were also chosen...

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In Him, we were also chosen having been pre-destined according to the plan of Him who works out EVERYTHING in conformity with the purpose of His will, in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of His glory. AND YOU ALSO were included in Christ when you HEARD the word of truth, the gospel your salvation. Having believed you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession to the praise of His glory!"

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#### **Joshua 1:1-11**

After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites.

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I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you;

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I will never leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous.

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Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged...

Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. So Joshua ordered the officers of the people: "Go through the camp and tell the people, 'Get your provisions ready. Three days from now you will cross the Jordan here to go in and take possession of the land the Lord your God is giving you for your own.

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God has made the promise and given the blessings but I must take possession of them

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6 things to know regarding God's blessings...

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1. Before God made the world, He made a plan for me.

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Ephesians 1:4  
For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world...

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2. Before God called me to do something special, He chose me to be something special.

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Paul says...  
He chose us to be holy and blameless. We are adopted.

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*Who you are is more important than what you do.*

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*With God our identity comes before our activity.*

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3. Before I can find my purpose I must lose myself in God's Passion.

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Ephesians 1:6  
...to the praise of His glorious grace, which He has freely given us in the One He loves.

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When purpose is not known abuse is inevitable.

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4. Before it all fell apart God had a plan to put it all back together.

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Ephesians 1:7-11  
*In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. And He made known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment to bring all things in heaven and earth together under one head-even Christ.*

5. Before I chose to live for God He chose to live in me.

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Ephesians 1:11

*In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will,*

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6. Before God can give you the land as your possession,  
you've got to give Him your life as His possession.

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Ephesians 1:14

*The Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession.*

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