

## THE CHURCH AND THE PLAN

### Ephesians 1:3-14

June 24, 2018

Like most Christians, the Ephesians were learning about their role and place in the plan of God.

#### I. The church plays an important role in God's plan of redemption.

- When Christians are oppressed by the world, they can count on the spiritual blessings of God.

**Acts 19:9**

- Words such as "chosen" and "predestined" refer to the fact that God has a plan.

**Ephesians 1:5, 11**

- According to the plan, some people are chosen for certain roles and privileges, and others are not.

**Ephesians 1:3, 5, 12, 13; Romans 9:4**

#### II. God's plan had a special role for Israel, and God's plan has a role for the church.

- Israel was a part of the plan, Jesus was a part of the plan, and the church is a part of the plan.

- God's plan brings his people together in the church.

- A frequent, but often overlooked, theme of Ephesians is presented in the "together" statements.

**Ephesians 2:1, 5-6, 13, 15-16, 18, 22**

**Ephesians 3:6, 10, 20-21; 4:11-16**

*The church is a prominent part of God's plan to save all who will accept Christ.*