

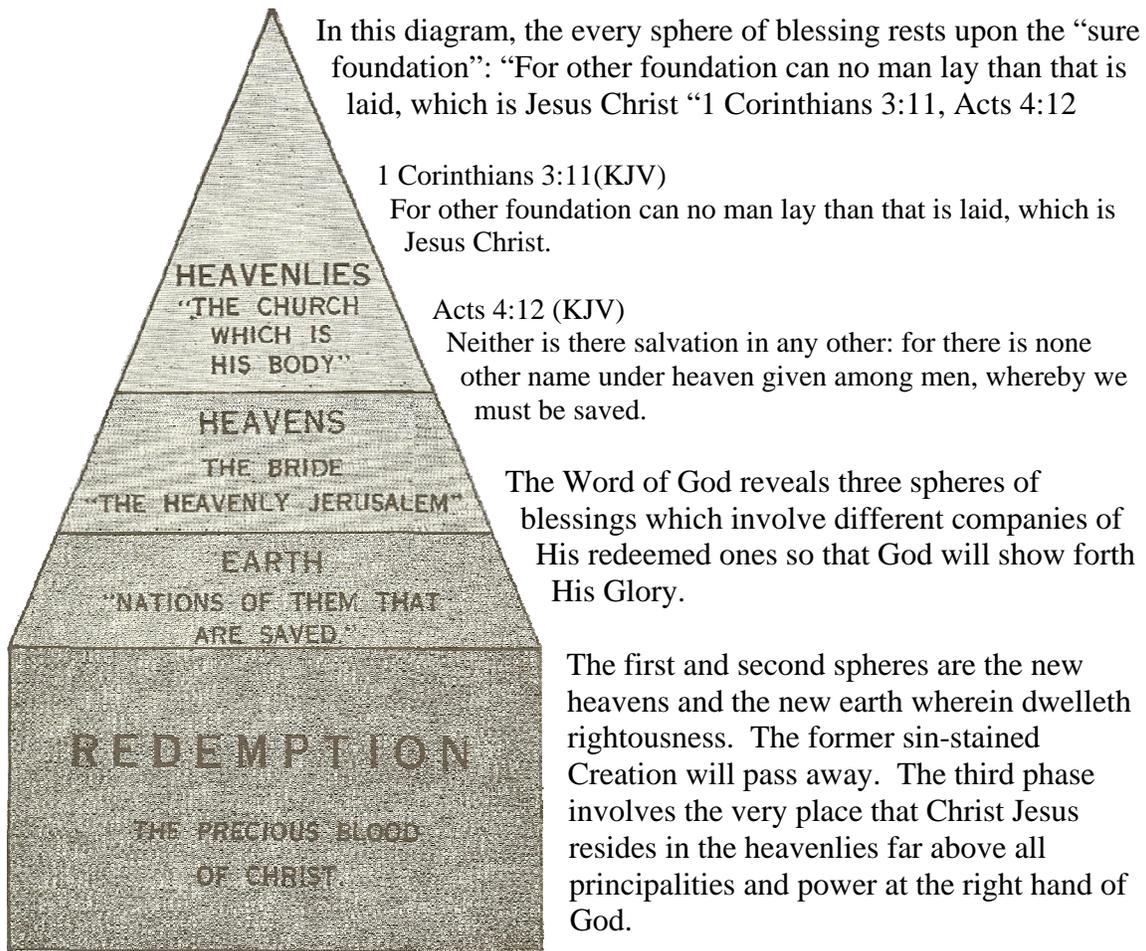
The Three Spheres of Blessings

In the Bible we find three spheres of Blessings. We see the three spheres talked about in 1 Kings 8:27

1 Kings 8:27 (KJV)

27 But will God indeed dwell on **the earth**? behold, **the heaven** and **heaven of heavens** cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?

The foundation of these blessing is based on our Lord Jesus Christ, who shed His blood that we may obtain our salvation from sin and our blessings which He promised to us.



Isaiah 65:17 (KJV)

17 For, behold, I create **new heavens** and a **new earth**: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

Matthew 24:35 (KJV)

35 **Heaven and earth shall pass away**, but my words shall not pass away.

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2 Peter 3:7-18 (KJV)

7 **But the heavens and the earth**, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, **reserved unto fire against the day of judgment** and perdition of ungodly men.8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which **the heavens shall pass away** with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, **the earth also** and the works that are therein **shall be burned up**. 11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for **new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness**.14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

Revelation 21:1 (KJV)

1 And I saw **a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away**; and there was no more sea.

Ephesians 1:3, 18-21 (KJV)

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who **hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ**: 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is **the hope of his calling**, and **what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints**, 19 And what is **the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe**, according to the working of his mighty power, 20 **Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places**, 21 **Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named**, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

Now let's take a look at the Three Spheres of Blessings

The Earth

The earth will be populated by **nations** over which **kings** will reign:

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Revelation 21:24 (KJV)

24 And **the nations** of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: **and the kings of the earth** do bring their glory and honour into it.

Revelation 5:10 (KJV)

10 And hast made us unto our God **kings** and priests: and **we shall reign on the earth**.

Matthew 25:32 (KJV)

32 And before him shall be gathered **all nations**: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his **sheep** from the goats:

Daniel 2:34-35; 44-45 (KJV)

34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

44 And in the **days of these kings** shall the God of heaven **set up a kingdom**, which shall never be destroyed: and **the kingdom** shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to **the king** what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

Matthew 5:5 (KJV)

5 Blessed are the meek: for they **shall inherit the earth**.

The Heavens

That better country (Hebrews 11:16) in which is situated the city for which Abraham looked (Heb 11:16); the hope of the heavenly calling (Heb 3:1); Jews and Gentiles blessed with faithful Abraham (Gal 3:9, 14); heirs according to the promise (Gal 3:16, 18, 29); the Israel of God (Gal 6:16); citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem (Heb 12:22; 13:14) which is above (Gal 4:26) the Bride (Rev 21:2, 2, 10).

Hebrews 11:16 (KJV)

16 But now they desire **a better country**, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for **he hath prepared for them a city**.

Heb 11:10 (KJV)

10 For **he looked for a city** which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Heb 3:1 (KJV)

1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of **the heavenly calling**, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

Gal 3:9 (KJV)

9 So then they which be of faith are blessed **with faithful Abraham**.

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Gal 3:14 (KJV)

14 **That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ;** that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Gal 3:16(KJV)

16 Now **to Abraham and his seed were the promises made.** He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.

Gal 3:18(KJV)

18For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but **God gave it to Abraham by promise.**

Gal 3:29(KJV)

29And if ye be Christ's, then are ye **Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.**

Gal 6:16 (KJV)

16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and **upon the Israel of God.**

Heb 12:22 (KJV)

22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, **the heavenly Jerusalem,** and to an innumerable company of angels,

Heb 13:14 (KJV)

14 For here have we no continuing city, **but we seek one to come.**

Gal 4:26 (KJV)

26 But **Jerusalem which is above** is free, which is the mother of us all.

Rev 21:2, 9,10 (KJV)

2 And I John **saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,** coming down from God out of heaven, **prepared as a bride** adorned for her husband.⁹ And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee **the bride,** the Lamb's wife.¹⁰ And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me **that great city, the holy Jerusalem,** descending out of heaven from God,

The Heavenuies

Over or above the heavens, the super-heavens, translated “heavenly places.” The Church which is His Body is “Blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ” (Eph 1:3). “The eyes of your understanding being enlightened that you may know... what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward, who believe... which He wrought in Christ, when he raised Him from the dead and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places far above all... gave Him to be the Head over all things to the Church, which is His Body, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all” (Eph 1:18-23). “Hath raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ” (Eph. 2:6)

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Ephesians 1:3(KJV)

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who **hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:**

Ephesians 1:18-23 (KJV)

18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know **what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,** 19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power **to us-ward who believe,** according to the working of his mighty power, 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him **at his own right hand in the heavenly places,** 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: 22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave **Him to be the head over all things to the church,** 23 Which is **His body,** the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Ephesians 2:6 (KJV)

6 **And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:**

The Lord Jesus Christ left this earth to return to glory. He “ascended up far above all heavens that He might fill all things” (Eph 4:10); “set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places” (Eph 1:20; Col 3:1). This was His position by sovereign right, but He is now there as Representative of redeemed mankind (Heb 9:24). When all things shall be finished He will be the Head-stone of the corner, over each sphere: the difference being their nearness to Him. The church which is His Body occupies the most glorious position of being seated with Him in the heavenlies.

Ephesians 4:10; 1:20 (KJV)

10 He that descended is the same also that **ascended up far above all heavens,** that he might fill all things.) 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and **set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,**

Colossians 3:1(KJV)

1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where **Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.**

Hebrews 9:24 (KJV)

24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but **into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:**

“When He ascended up on high, He led a multitude of captives captive” (Eph 4:8 - margin). Having spoiled principalities and powers, made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it” (Col 2:15). “He is far above all principality and power, and might, and dominion, and every name... all things under His Feet and Head over all things to the Church which is His Body” (Eph 1:22-23; Col 2:10).

Ephesians 4:8-9 (KJV)

8 Wherefore he saith, **When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive,** and gave gifts unto men.

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Colossians 2:15 (KJV)

15 And **having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.**

Ephesians 1:22-23 (KJV)

22 And hath **put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23 Which is his body**, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Colossians 2:10 (KJV)

10 And ye **are complete in Him, which is the head of all principality and power:**

Christ is Head now to the One Body in the heavenlies; although, in the heavens and earth, “we see not yet all things put under Him” (Heb 2:8; 1 Cor 15:25-28). It is because of Christ’s present Headship that members of His Body may partake of the “out-resurrection from among the dead” (Phil 3:11); those of the Thessalonian calling sleep until the Lord Himself shall descend and the dead in Christ shall be raised to meet Him in the air (1 Thess 4:16).

Hebrews 2:8 (KJV)

8 Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. **But now we see not yet all things put under him.**

1 Corinthians 15:25-28 (KJV)

25 **For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.** 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith, all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. 28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him that God may be all in all.

Philippians 3:11(KJV)

11 **If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.** (out-resurrection)

1 Thessalonians 4:16 (KJV)

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: **and the dead in Christ shall rise first:**

When our exalted Lord and Saviour at His glorious return – which is the second Advent, or Parousia – to the earth takes His great power and reigns, He will commence operations where He is now, in the heavenlies; the Body having been gathered together in one (Eph 1:10) to its Head (Col 3:4). He will descend into the heavens, there to meet those of the heavenly calling. Then His feet shall stand upon Mount Olivet (Zech 14:4), and there will be deliverance for Israel from their enemies, who will be destroyed with the brightness of His coming. This is that stone which shall smite the image on the feet (Dan 2), and the times of the Gentiles will end. Israel shall own Him as Lord and be saved (Rom 11:25-26). “The God of heaven shall set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed... it shall stand for ever” (Dan 2:44).

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Ephesians 1:10 (KJV)

10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:

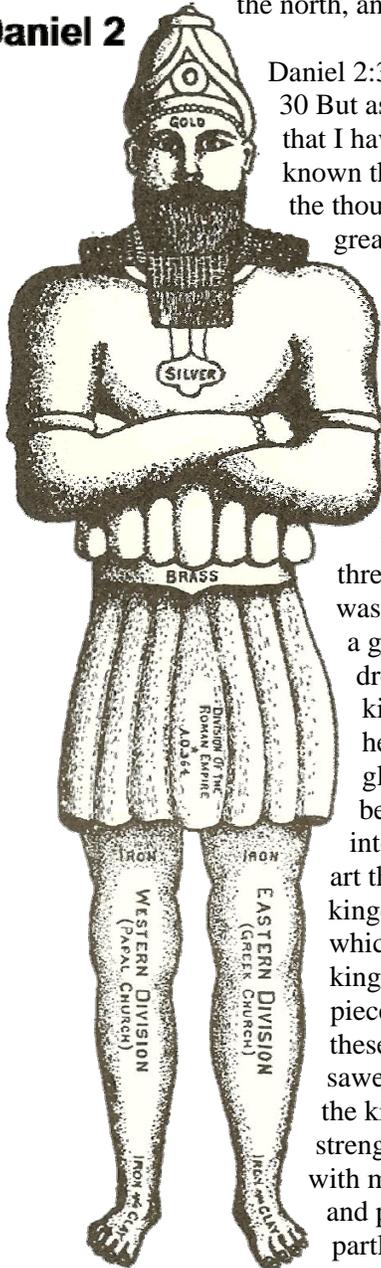
Colossians 3:4 (KJV)

4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Zechariah 14:4 (KJV)

4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

Daniel 2



Daniel 2:30-45 (KJV)

30 But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart. 31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a

great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent,

stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible. 32

This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his

arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, 33 His

legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. 34 Thou

sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which

smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay,

and brake them to pieces. 35 Then was the iron, the clay,

the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces

together, and became like the chaff of the summer

threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place

was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became

a great mountain, and filled the whole earth. 36 This is the

dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the

king. 37 Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of

heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and

glory. 38 And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the

beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given

into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou

art this head of gold. 39 And after thee shall arise another

kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass,

which shall bear rule over all the earth. 40 And the fourth

kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in

pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all

these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. 41 And whereas thou

sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron,

the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the

strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed

with miry clay. 42 And as the toes of the feet were part of iron,

and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and

partly broken. 43 And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with

miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men:

but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not

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mixed with clay. 44 **And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.** 45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

The hope of the coming kingdom on earth is the subject of many Old Testament prophecies; while that of the better country, that heavenly city, was revealed to Abraham and others (Heb 11). Such continued to be the earnest expectation of all the saved up to the time when Israel as a nation were temporarily set aside. All through the Acts, Paul said: "None other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come" (Acts 26:22); "the hope of Israel" (Acts 28:20). After Israel were set aside, God's revelation is completed in that which He made known through Paul: "Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; and to make all see what is the fellowship (dispensation, administration) of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God" (Eph 3:8-9).

Hebrews 11:8-10 (KJV)

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. 9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: 10 **For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.**

Acts 26:22 (KJV)

22 Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, **saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come:**

Acts 28:20 (KJV)

20 For this cause therefore have I called for you, to see you, and to speak with you: because that for **the hope of Israel** I am bound with this chain.

Ephesians 3:8-9 (KJV)

8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach **among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; 9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery**, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

During the witness to Israel Paul preached non other things than foretold in the Old Testament scriptures (Acts 26:22); but on the nation's rejection of the truth he was "made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fully preach the Word of God; even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to His saints: to whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ among you, the hope of glory" (Col 1:25-27). The epistles of Ephesians, Philippians, and

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Colossians were written after Acts 28, and in these the mystery is revealed. This mystery is a body chosen in Christ before the overthrow of the world (Eph 1:4) to show forth His glory in the heavenlies (Eph 1:3; 2:6).

Acts 26:22 (KJV)

22 Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come:

Colossians 1:25-27 (KJV)

25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God; 26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: 27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

Ephesians 1:3-4

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Ephesians 2:6 (KJV)

6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

During Acts, the Gentiles were “Blessed with faithful Abraham” (Gal 3:9); their position is illustrated as that of a wild olive grafted, contrary to nature, into the good olive of Israel’s covenant privileges, and partaking of the root and fatness of the good olive-tree (Rom 11:17-24); but in the epistles of the mystery, written after Acts, believers chosen from both Jew and Gentiles in spirit are made of “twain one new man,” both in one Body blessed in the heavenlies (Eph 2:11-22). It has been revealed to the prophets that the Gentiles should be blessed (Rom 15:8-12); but “that the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ by the gospel whereof I (Paul) was made a minister,” was not made known as “it is now” (Eph 3:3-7).

Galatians 3:9 (KJV)

9 So then **they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.**

Romans 11:17-24 (KJV)

17 And if some of the branches be broken off, **and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;**

18 Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. 19 Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. 20 Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: 21 For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. 22 Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. 23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graff them in again. 24 **For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is**

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wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?

Ephesians 2:11-22 (KJV)

11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: 13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14 **For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;** 15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; **for to make in himself of twain one new man,** so making peace; 16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: 17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. 18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. 19 **Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;** 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

Romans 15:8-12 (KJV)

8 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers: 9 And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, **For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name.** 10 **And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people.** 11 And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people. 12 And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and **he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.**

Ephesians 3:3-7 (KJV)

3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, 4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) 5 **Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;** 6 **That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:** 7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

In summary

There is in each sphere of blessing an inheritance to be possessed by faith. Abraham believed what God had revealed concerning that better country, and “He looked for the city which hath the foundations, whose builder and maker is God” (Heb 11:16). Today, the truth concerning the present Headship of Christ in the heavenlies, and the Body blessed with Him, is to be received by those who have been chosen on the same principle of faith-obedience. “That their hearts may be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God – Christ” (Col 2:2).

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Giving thanks unto the Father, who hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light” (Col 1:12).

Hebrews 11:16 (KJV)

16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

Colossians 2:2; 1:12 (KJV)

2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; 1:12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

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