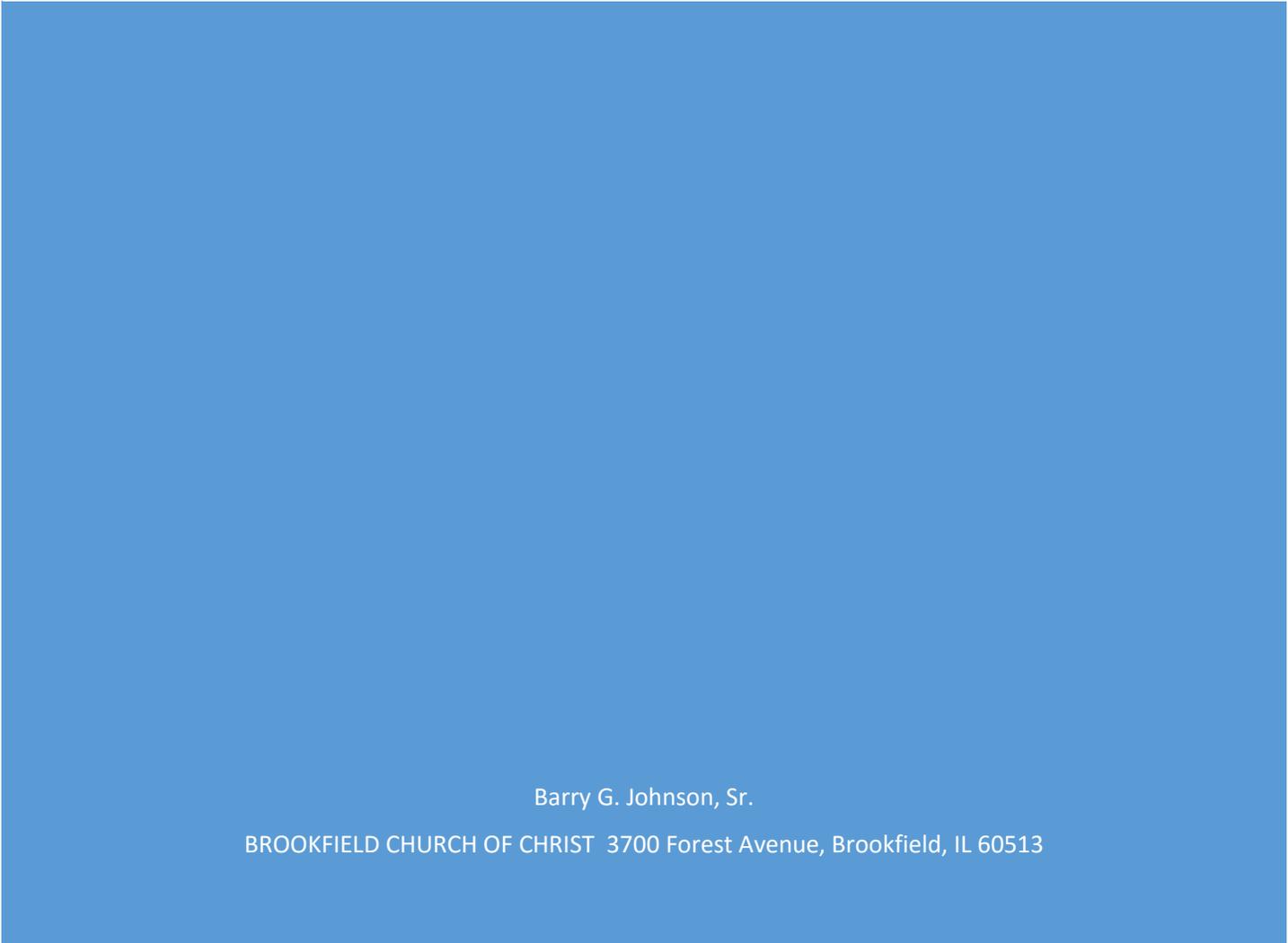




BELIEVERS PRIVILEGES

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Ephesians 1:3 (NIV)

³ 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.

Thesis:

As believers in God we have wonderful spiritual blessings that can be called Believers Privileges.

Objectives:

- I. The Privilege of Salvation
- II. The Privilege of the Forgiveness of Sins
- III. The Privilege of Adoption
- IV. The Privilege of being Holy and Blameless (detail on www.barryjohnsonsr.com)
- V. The Privilege of Glorious Grace (detail on www.barryjohnsonsr.com)
- VI. The Privilege of knowing the Mystery of His Will (detail on www.barryjohnsonsr.com)
- VII. The Privilege of Unity in all Things in Heaven and on Earth (detail on www.barryjohnsonsr.com)

Introduction:

Being a child of God is no small thing. We have access and privileges that not everyone can rightfully claim. Salvation is not a privilege that all will partake in. The forgiveness of Sins will be lost to most. Not many will be adopted as Sons of God. Today we are far short of being Holy and Blameless on our own. The Grace of God has appeared to all men but all men have not taken hold of it. The Gospel remains veiled to those that are perishing. As God keeps those who belong to Him safe in the Church, He is reconciling to Himself all things in Heaven and on Earth.

Listen to these privileges and do not take them for granted and obey the Lord to gain access to these and more.

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Sermon Outline:

I. The Privilege of Salvation

- A. Those who have obeyed Jesus commands are being saved.

Ephesians 1:13 (NIV)

¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,

- B. Obeying is believing and believing is obeying. Without it there is no privilege in Christ and it begins with hearing the Gospel.
- C. Not just hearing any gospel. Only by hearing the true Gospel can one be saved.

Colossians 1:5 (NIV)

⁵ the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel

- D. Not just any sermon can save. It must be true to God's Word. Taught wrong cannot equal saved right. One must be taught right to be right with God.
- E. The truth is taught in accordance with the things found in Jesus.

Ephesians 4:21 (NIV)

²¹ when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.

- F. *What a wonderful Privilege for the Believer, Salvation.*

II. The Privilege of the Forgiveness of Sins

- A. Believers are in Jesus the Christ and in Him is the Forgiveness of Sins.

Ephesians 1:7 (NIV)

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

- B. Because He sacrificed Himself we have an exclusive Privilege in Him, the Forgiveness of our Sins.

Romans 3:25 (NIV)

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³ 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.

²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished—

- C. This atoning sacrifice of a Holy and Blameless Savior brings us Forgiveness of Sins.
- D. We were dead to God in our sins before obtaining this Privilege.

Colossians 2:13 (NIV)

¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,

- E. *God moved long ago towards our Salvation and the Forgiveness of our Sins. He planned in the beginning that we would be Sons of God.*

III. The Privilege of Adoption

- A. Long ago it was the Lord's pleasure that we be sons of His.

Ephesians 1:5 (NIV)

⁵ he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—

- B. As His sons we are no longer led by the world and our flesh. We have the privilege of being led by the Spirit.
- C. God's children are led by God's Spirit.

Romans 8:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

- D. This is a special privilege that comes with all the rights of the family of God.
- E. The Greek meaning here is full legal standing of an adopted male heir in Roman culture.
- F. *Although at one time we were opposed to God, now we have Privilege as His children.*

IV. The Privilege of being Holy and Blameless

- A. We are certainly not Holy and Blameless without God.
- B. Now we can be a radiant church without stain or wrinkle
- C. The Believers Privilege causes us to be free from accusation.

V. The Privilege of Glorious Grace

- A. We become the praise of God, a witness to His Glorious Grace.

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- B. Our hope is set firmly in **God's Righteousness At Christ Expense**.
- C. He has marked us with a seal, a deposit on the inheritance of Believers.

VI. The Privilege of knowing the Mystery of His Will

- A. In the past the mystery of God's Will was not known.
- B. Believers love and operate within this mystery first proclaimed in the Gospel.
- C. Paul confirms this Gospel is not the origin of any man.

VII. The Privilege of Unity in all Things in Heaven and on Earth

- A. Under Christ and in the fulfillment of time Believers are united with all things in Heaven and on Earth that are the Lord's.
- B. Today our Creator is reconciling all things to Himself and we are in that number.
- C. In Christ Church we are all one. No more earthly division that causes disputes and equality.

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Conclusion:

- The Privilege of Salvation
- The Privilege of the Forgiveness of Sins
- The Privilege of Adoption
- The Privilege of being Holy and Blameless (detail on www.barryjohnsonsr.com)
- The Privilege of Glorious Grace (detail on www.barryjohnsonsr.com)
- The Privilege of knowing the Mystery of His Will (detail on www.barryjohnsonsr.com)
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Consider these awesome privileges that belong to those who believe God. Those who believe God are those who obey God. Begin your walk with God in His marvelous Grace by obeying His will today.

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Romans 10:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ So faith comes from **hearing**, and **hearing** through the word of Christ.

Hebrews 11:6 (ESV)

⁶ And without **faith** it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must **believe** that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Acts 17:30 (ESV)

³⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to **repent**,

1 Timothy 6:12 (ESV)

¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good **confession** in the presence of many witnesses.

Acts 2:38 (ESV)

³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be **baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Revelation 2:10 (ESV)

¹⁰ Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.

