

May 19, 2009

Dear Friends of the Foundation:

Please see below an email forwarded from Steve Bryant, who was kind to share a quote from Calvin's sermon on Ephesians 1:13-14.

Grace and Peace,

Jim

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Jim,

I started a Lectio Continua of Ephesians several weeks ago, and I'm finding Calvin's work on Ephesians most helpful.

This concluding statement of Calvin's sermon on Ephesians 1:13-14 is as good a summary of his theology as any I have ever seen.

"Now let us cast ourselves down before the majesty of our good God with acknowledgement of our faults, praying him to make us feel them more and more, even so far as to bring us to utter revulsion from the rottenness that is in us, so that we, finding that there is nothing in us but a bottomless pit of all kinds of iniquity, may learn to resort to his righteousness, and to seek it at the source, and to acknowledge that he has shown himself a merciful Father towards us, not doubting that thereby he meant also to assure us that he had adopted us before the beginning of the world, in order that we should continue to call upon him with true steadfastness and never cease so to do." (Conclusion to Calvin's sermon on Ephesians 1:13-14, *Sermons on Ephesians*, p. 79, Banner of Truth)

Just felt compelled to share that with you as you regularly encourage me with your emails, and as you were the one who turned me on to Lectio Continua preaching.

Blessings,

Steve Bryant