

6 November 2016 – All saints.

Readings: Dan. 7:1-3, 15-18; Psalm 149, Eph. 1:11-23; Lk. 6:20-31.

**INTRO: To the saints - Ephesians 1:1**, “Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, **To the saints** who are at Ephesus and *who are* faithful in Christ Jesus.” God wants you to know who you are!



## I. HOLY.

**Psalm 149:1**, “Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of **his faithful people (saints)**.”

**Ephesians 1:1, 4, 7**, “**To the saints (agios)** who are at Ephesus and *who are* faithful in Christ Jesus... For he chose us in him before the creation of the world **to be holy (agios) and blameless** in his sight... In him **we have redemption** through his blood, **the forgiveness of sins**, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace.”

**Hebrews 12:14**, “Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and **to be holy**; without **holiness** no one will see the Lord.”



## II. PURPOSEFUL.

### A. TO KNOW JESUS BETTER.

**Romans 8:28-29**, “We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been **called according to his purpose**. For those God foreknew he also predestined **to be conformed to the image of his Son**.”

**Ephesians 1:17**, “**I keep asking** that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, **so that you may know him better**.”

### B. TO MAKE JESUS KNOWN.

#### 1. In the heavenly realms.

**Psalm 149:1**, “Praise the LORD. **Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of his faithful people (the saints)**.”

**Ephesians 3:10**, “His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be **made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms.**”

## 2. On earth (as it is in heaven).

**Psalm 149:6-9**, “May the praise of God be in their mouths and a double-edged sword in their hands, **to inflict vengeance** on the nations and punishment on the peoples, **to bind** their kings with fetters, their nobles with shackles of iron, to carry out the sentence written against them—this is the glory of all **his faithful people (saints).**”

**Matthew 16:18-19**, “I’m going to tell you who you are, *really* are. You are Peter, a rock. This is the rock on which I will put together my church, **a church so expansive with energy** that not even **the gates of hell will be able to keep it out.** I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; **whatever you bind on earth** will be bound in heaven, and **whatever you loose on earth** will be loosed in heaven.”

**Luke 6:27-28**, “Love your enemies, **do good** to those who hate you, **bless** those who curse you, **pray** for those who mistreat you.”



## III. INHERITORS.

**Daniel 7:18**, “the holy people (*saints*) of the Most High **will receive** the kingdom and **will possess it forever—yes, for ever and ever.**”

**Ephesians 1:13-14**, “When you 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.”

**CONCLUSION: 2 Timothy 4:7-8**, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race (purpose), I have kept the faith (holy). Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing (everlasting).”