The Apostles' Creed: Third Article

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Life Everlasting

Today, we close out the examination of the Apostles' Creed with the phrase, "the life everlasting." We are going to explore the question, "Are you sure you have eternal life?" It is vital to our life in Christ that we are sure of our salvation. So, we turn our attention to **Ephesians 1:3-6**.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

How can we be sure?

- 1. First, it is God who blesses us with eternal life. Since God is all-powerful, we know He *can* do what He says He will do. Since He is all loving, we know He *will* do what He says He will do.
- 2. Second, He chose us to have this blessing of eternal life. This is not of ourselves.
- 3. Third, He predestined us for this. In Christ, God has predetermined that we are His.
- 4. Fourth, He has *adopted us as sons*. That adoption makes us part of the family of God. God will not disown His children.
- 5. Fifth, this is all *in accordance with the purpose of His will*. We pray Thy will be done, knowing that He will work His will.
- 6. Finally, throughout this passage, Paul says that all this is done *in the Beloved*, in Christ. Eternal life is found in Christ and only in Christ.

There is no doubt. In Christ, we have eternal life. This is most certainly true.