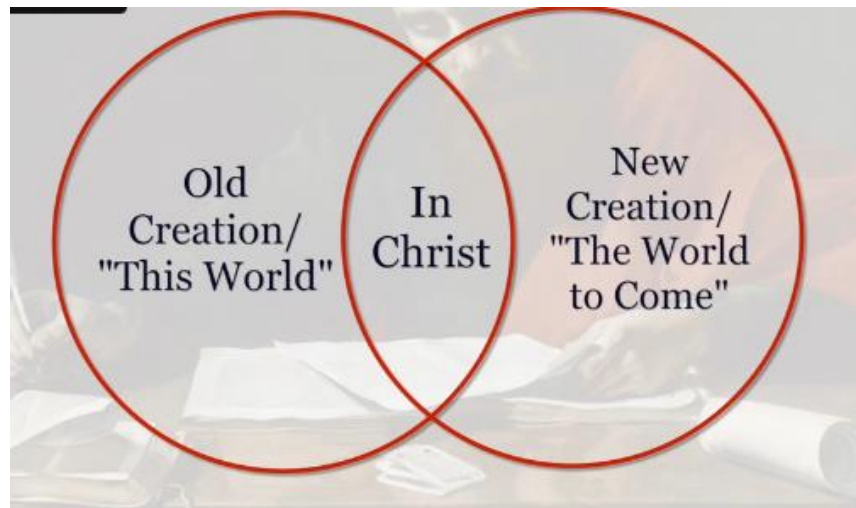


## The Letter to the Ephesians – Chapter 1: 1-4

Ephesians 1:1-14— Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are<sup>[a]</sup> also faithful<sup>[b]</sup> in Christ Jesus:<sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. The Mystery of the Church [1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are also faithful in Christ Jesus: 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.] 3 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, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. 5 He destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8 which he lavished upon us. 9 For he has made known to us in all wisdom and insight the mystery of his will, according to his purpose which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fulness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. (Ephesians 1:1-14)

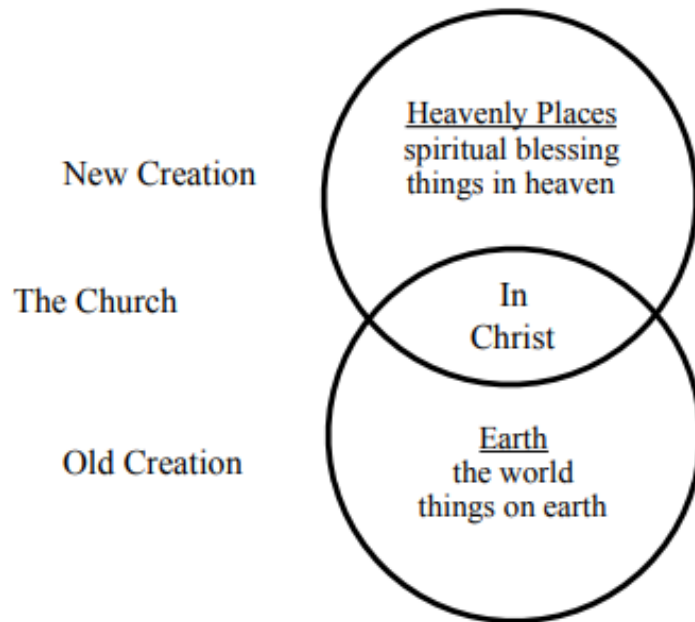


**Chronological: Old to New**

## The Letter to the Ephesians – Chapter 1: 1-4

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By: Brandt Pitre



**This already exist now in the realm of God**

**The Living Tradition Vatican II:** The Son, accordingly, came, sent by the Father who, before the foundation of the world, chose us and predestined us in him for adoptive **sonship**. For it is in him that it pleased the Father to restore all things (cf. Eph. 1:4–5 and 10). To carry out the will of the Father Christ inaugurated the kingdom of heaven on earth and revealed to us his mystery; by his obedience he brought about our redemption. The Church—that is, the kingdom of Christ already present in mystery—grows visibly through the power of God in the world.... All men are called to this union with Christ, who is the light of the world, from whom we go forth, through whom we live, and towards whom our whole life is directed.

## The Letter to the Ephesians – Chapter 1: 1-4

(Vatican II, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, Lumen Gentium 1.3, trans. A. Flannery).

### Ephesians 1:13 - Seal

**1272** Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, the person baptized is configured to Christ. Baptism seals the Christian with the indelible spiritual mark (*character*) of his belonging to Christ. No sin can erase this mark, even if sin prevents Baptism from bearing the fruits of salvation. Given once for all, Baptism cannot be repeated.

**1273** Incorporated into the Church by Baptism, the faithful have received the sacramental character that consecrates them for Christian religious worship. The baptismal seal enables and commits Christians to serve God by a vital participation in the holy liturgy of the Church and to exercise their baptismal priesthood by the witness of holy lives and practical charity.

**1274** The Holy Spirit has marked us with the *seal of the Lord* ("*Dominicus character*") "for the day of redemption." "Baptism indeed is the seal of eternal life." The faithful Christian who has "kept the seal" until the end, remaining faithful to the demands of his Baptism, will be able to depart this life "marked with the sign of faith," with his baptismal faith, in expectation of the blessed vision of God - the consummation of faith - and in the hope of resurrection.

### Ephesians 1:14 - Guarantee

**1107** The Holy Spirit's transforming power in the liturgy hastens the coming of the kingdom and the consummation of the mystery of salvation. While we wait in hope he causes us really to anticipate the fullness of communion with the Holy Trinity. Sent by the Father who hears the epiclesis of the Church, the Spirit gives life to those who accept him and is, even now, the "guarantee" of their inheritance.

Define: epiclesis - the special invocation of the Holy Spirit