

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are employed in the public sector has increased from 10.5 million to 12.5 million (12% of the population). The public sector has become a major employer in the UK, and this has implications for the way in which the public sector is managed and the way in which it is funded.

The public sector is a complex organisation, and it is difficult to define what it is. The public sector is not a single entity, but it is a collection of organisations that are funded by the state. The public sector is a collection of organisations that are funded by the state, and it is a collection of organisations that are funded by the state.

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Paul's Letter To The Church At Ephesus

From Who: The Apostle Paul.

From Where: Prison in Rome.

Date: A.D. 61-62.

To Whom: The Christians living in Ephesus.

Purpose: To encourage & instruct the followers
of Jesus Christ.

Theme: God's work through Jesus in creating a
New Society of people.

Point #1: Jesus Christ is the foundation of everything that Paul is about to say!

Point #2:

Christians actively live in two worlds:

- we are *in Christ*
- we are *in Calgary*

Point #3:

As followers of Jesus we are called to demonstrate his “*grace and his peace.*”

How does God's *grace & peace* alter
the way you live your life?

- Are you known as a person of grace?
- Are you known as a person of peace?
- Do you practice “double listening”?

How can we become known as a
congregation full of *grace & peace*
this year?

This Week: The Blessings of God!

Praise be to God . . .

Who has blessed us . . . In Christ.

1. God has *deliberately* set out to save
—you! (v.v. 3-8)

A. *He decided* long ago that you should
be blameless before Him (v.v. 4-6)

God chose us before the world was made so that we would be his holy people - a people without blame before him. Because of his love, God had already decided to make us his own children through Jesus Christ. That was what he wanted, and what pleased him. (v.v. 4-5)

He did what was necessary to make you blameless. (v.v. 7-8)

In Christ, we are set free by the blood of his death, and so we have forgiveness of sins. (v 8)

2. God has *deliberately* shown you
what His plans are for His world.

(v.v. 9-14)

*He has made known to us the mystery of his will
according to his good pleasure. (v. 9)*

*He let us in on the plans he took such delight in
making!
(Peterson - The Message)*

WHAT ARE GOD'S PLANS???

A. To bring everything together again.
(v. 10)

He has made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment - to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

B. To predestine people to respond to Him.

(v.v. 11-13)

Greek: *prohorizo* - to plan ahead of time
- to decide on beforehand

First, the Jews:

In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. (v.v. 11-12)

And Now . . . Everyone!

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. (v 13)

C. To give those who respond to God a taste of what the future holds for them. (v. 14)

- A Deposit: The Holy Spirit
- A Guarantee: Our Inheritance is Coming
- A Promise: We Are God's Possession

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

Having believed, you were marked with 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. (v.v. 13-14)

So What?

Message in a Sentence:

- *God has pre-wired you to know Him and to understand his plans for the world and when you “get it”, you will never be the same!*

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are employed in the public sector has increased from 10.5 million to 12.5 million, and the number of people in the public sector who are employed in health care has increased from 2.5 million to 3.5 million (Department of Health 2000).

There are a number of reasons for this increase in the number of people employed in the public sector. One reason is that the public sector has become a more important part of the economy. Another reason is that the public sector has become a more attractive place to work. A third reason is that the public sector has become a more important part of society.

The public sector has become a more important part of the economy because it provides a number of essential services. These services include health care, education, and social care. The public sector has become a more attractive place to work because it offers a number of benefits, including job security and a good work-life balance. The public sector has become a more important part of society because it provides a number of essential services that are needed for a good quality of life.

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