

## II. God's Purpose for the Church (1.3-3.13 "The Body Formed in Eternity Past" (1.3-6a)

**Introduction:** Think about exploring a national forest from a helicopter viewpoint and a viewpoint of being on foot in the forest. Often times when you consider the major doctrines/truths of God's Word it is helpful to see it from a broad and narrow view. It can be quite daunting to understand these truths but always remember that with each major truth there will be some mystery/tension. Your awareness of that tension helps in understanding and trusting God in the tension.

**Zoomed Out:** 1.3-14 is one single sentence in the Greek. 202 words describing the magnanimous glories of God in forming the body in eternity past.

- Vv. 3-6 (Past) Election – God The Father's Work
- Vv. 7-10 (Present) Redemption – God The Son's Work
- Vv. 11-14 (Future) Inheritance – God The Spirit's Work

**Zoomed In:** Vv. 3-6a takes us back into eternity to display God the Father's Work in forming the body.

- V. 3 – Aspects of Divine Blessing
- Vv. 4-6 – Elements of the Eternal Forming of God's Body