

Ephesians

Chapter 1:17-23

- I. **Ephesians 1:17-18** ¹⁷That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: ¹⁸The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

a. Father of Glory

I. **God the Father answers prayers**

II. **Jesus is the mediator**

1. **I Timothy 2:5** ⁵For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

III. **The Holy Spirit makes intercession**

1. **Romans 8:26-27** ²⁶Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what *is* the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to *the will of* God.

b. spirit of wisdom

I. **This is a lower case. This is not the father giving us the Holy Spirit again. This is dealing with an attitude of wisdom. Notice that this is a God given wisdom and not man's wisdom.**

c. Eyes of your understanding being enlightened

I. **I Corinthians 2:9-12** ⁹But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart

of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. ¹⁰But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. ¹¹For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

II. Peter speaks of the relationship between lack of knowledge and blindness.

1. **II Peter 1:8-9** ⁸For if these things be in you, and abound, they make *you that ye shall* neither *be* barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

III. Satan blinds the minds of unbelievers.

1. **II Corinthians 4:4** ⁴In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.
2. **Ephesians 5:8** ⁸For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

IV. Israel is currently in blindness.

1. **Romans 11:25** ²⁵For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

d. That ye may know

I. Hope of his calling

1. Hope- Greek word *elpis*- Strongs Con. from a primary ἔλπω *élpō* (to anticipate, usually with pleasure); expectation (abstractly or concretely) or confidence:—faith, hope.

a. Romans 5:2²By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

b. Romans 5:5⁵And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

c. Romans 8:24²⁴For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

d. Philippians 3:21²¹Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

e. Romans 8:23²³And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body.

2. Know the hope of the calling

a. Heavenly

i. Philippians 3:20²⁰For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

ii. Colossians 3:1,4¹If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. ⁴When Christ, *who*

is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

iii. **Titus 2:13** ¹³Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

iv. **Ephesians 4:4** ⁴*There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;*

II. **Riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints**

1. **His inheritance**

a. **Paul previously described inheritance in this chapter. Here “we” are his inheritance.**

II. **Ephesians 1:19-20** ¹⁹And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, ²⁰Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*,

a. His power to usward who believe

I. **These two verses use four different words dealing with power.**

1. **Power-dynamis-** miraculous power etc.

2. **Working- energia-** working, strong

3. **Mighty- ischys-** forcefulness: ability, power, strength

4. **Wrought- energeo-** to be active, efficient, mighty in.

II. **This power that will be explained in verse 20 is only toward those that believe (Ephesians 1:13).**

b. Resurrection power

I. **Paul saw this first hand on the road to Damascus.**

II. **Romans 1:3-4** ³Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; ⁴And declared *to be* the Son of God with

power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

III. If God in His power didn't resurrect Jesus

1. **I Corinthians 15:14**¹⁴ And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain.
2. **I Corinthians 15:17**¹⁷ And if Christ be not raised, your faith *is* vain; ye are yet in your sins.

IV. That same power is in us

1. **Romans 8:11**¹¹ But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.
2. **Philippians 3:10**¹⁰ That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;
3. **I Corinthians 6:14**¹⁴ And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.

c. Set at his own right hand

- I. **There were those who were raised from the dead, but they eventually died. God raised Jesus from the dead, gave Him a glorified body and sat Him in the heavenlies at His right hand. This is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us. Jesus was the first. We will follow.**

II. Right hand is a place of power

1. **Exodus 15:6**⁶ Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.
2. **Psalms 16:10-11**¹⁰ For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. ¹¹ Thou wilt shew me the path of

life: in thy presence *is* fulness of joy; at thy right hand *there are* pleasures for evermore.

3. Psalm 44:1-3 ¹(To the chief Musician for the sons of Korah, Maschil.) We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, *what* work thou didst in their days, in the times of old. ²*How* thou didst drive out the heathen with thy hand, and plantedst them; *how* thou didst afflict the people, and cast them out. ³For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou hadst a favour unto them.

d. **Ephesians 1:21-22** ²¹Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: ²²And hath put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things* to the church,

e. Above all

I. **Vs 19 said exceeding greatness of his power when talking about the resurrection power. Above all is a position over “all”. The position is an exceeding great position as well. None are as powerful as Christ.**

II. **Christ is preeminent over all and was the creator of all.**

1. John 1:1-3 ¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²The same was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

2. John 1:14 ¹⁴And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

3. Colossians 1:15-17 ¹⁵Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: ¹⁶For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: ¹⁷And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

4. Hebrews 1:1-2 ¹God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, ²Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

f. Principality, power, might

I. **Ephesians 3:10** ¹⁰To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly *places* might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

II. **Ephesians 6:12** ¹²For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

III. **Colossians 1:16** ¹⁶For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

IV. **Colossians 2:10** ¹⁰And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

V. **Colossians 2:15** ¹⁵*And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

g. Name...In this world...that which is to come

I. **Philippians 2:9-11** ⁹Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰That at the name of Jesus every knee

should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; ¹¹And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

III. **Ephesians 1:23** ²³Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

a. Christ is the head

I. **I Corinthians 11:3** ³But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman *is* the man; and the head of Christ *is* God.

II. **Colossians 2:19** ¹⁹And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

b. We are the body

I. **I Corinthians 12:12-14** ¹²For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also *is* Christ. ¹³For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether *we be* bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. ¹⁴For the body is not one member, but many.

1. **This passage talks about feet, eyes, hands and ears referencing the body of Christ. It is to be united with no schism while having the same care one for another.**

II. **Ephesians 4:16** ¹⁶From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

III. **Ephesians 2:6** ⁶And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:

1. **To reign with him. Satan will be booted out.**