



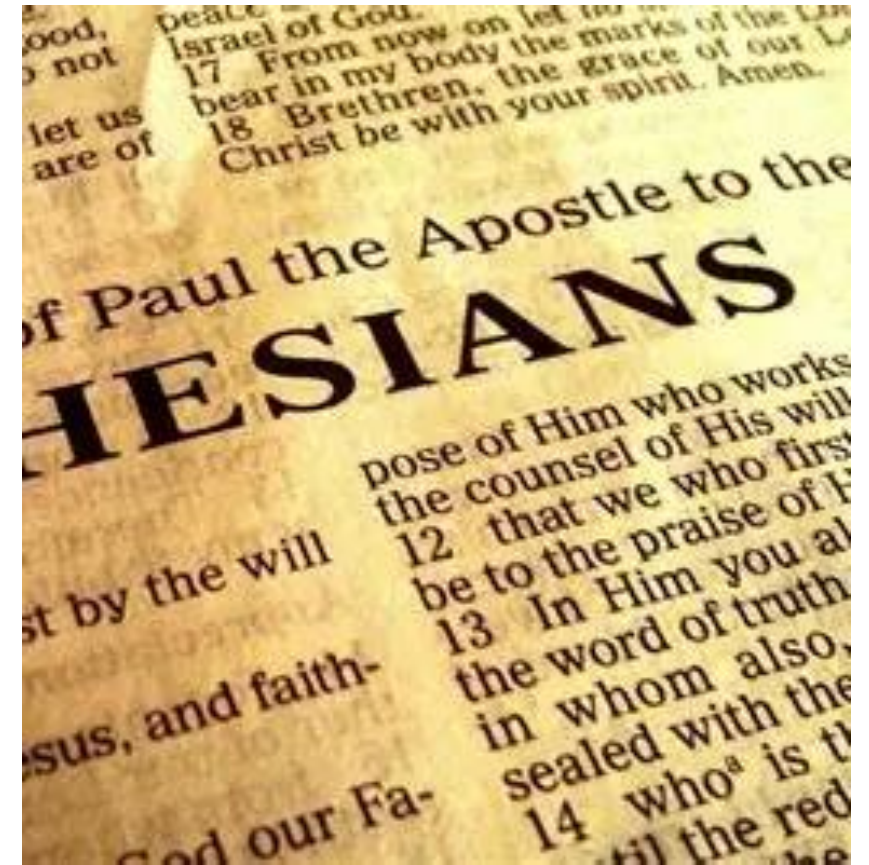
The WORD Series

Part 4 – The Prayer!



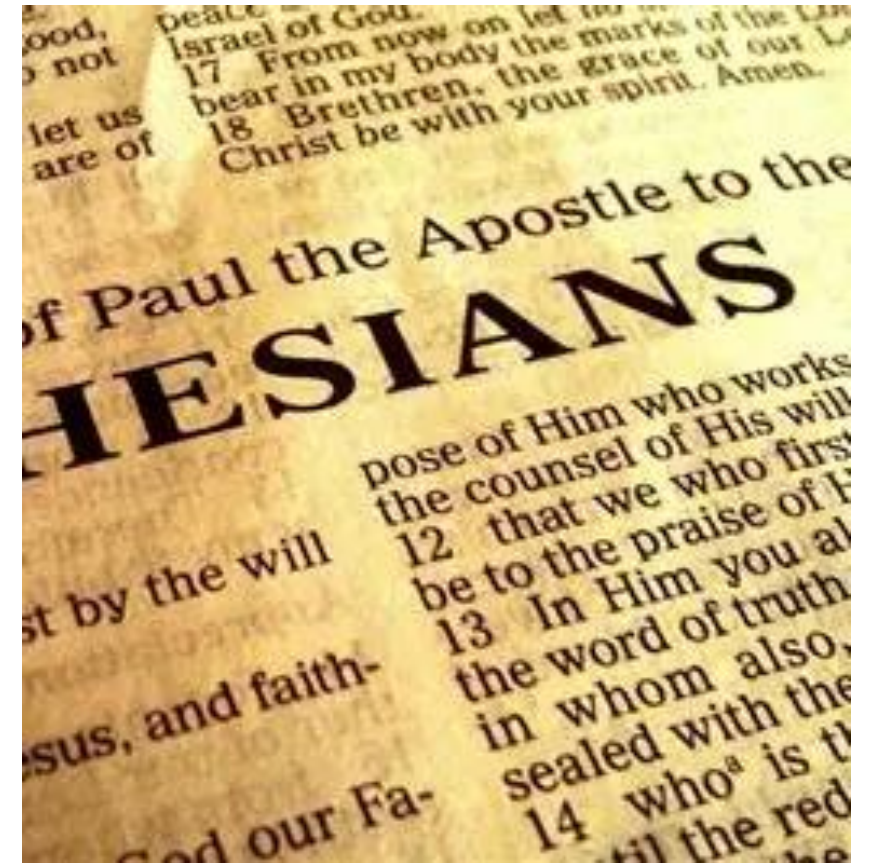
Introduction

- This our fourth session on the Book of Ephesians and we are still in Chapter one!
- Last time we looked at the awesomeness of God and His Grace and Generosity towards Humanity.
- God has done so much for us, we can only be grateful and thankful.



Introduction...

- In this class, we will look at and meditate on a very powerful and spiritual prayer.
- Seeing how the Holy Spirit prays through Paul is an insight into how Heaven intercedes for us.
- Praying these passages is like praying the heart and mind of God for us.



Intro...

- Ephesians 1:15–23 is **Paul's prayer** for the believers in Ephesus.
- It moves from **thanksgiving** for their faith and love to **intercession** for deeper revelation.
- That they might know the **hope, riches, and power** found in Christ, who reigns supreme over all.
- It's not just a prayer to *know more*, but a plea to see *more clearly* what believers already *have* in Christ



The Prayer...

- *¹⁵ Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,*
- *¹⁶ do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:*
- *¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,*
- *¹⁸ the eyes of your ^[f]understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,*
- *Ephesians 1:15-23 NKJV*
- *¹⁹ and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power*
- *²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,*
- *²¹ far above all principality^[g] and ^[h]power and ^[i]might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.*
- *²² And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.*

Amplified...

- *15 For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people,*
- *16 I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers; 17 [I always pray] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may grant you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation*
- *[that gives you a deep and personal and intimate insight] into the true knowledge of Him [for we know the Father through the Son].*
- *18 And [I pray] that the eyes of your heart [the very center and core of your being] may be enlightened [flooded with light by the Holy Spirit], so that you will know and cherish the [h]hope [the divine guarantee, the confident expectation] to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the [g]saints (God's people),*
- *19 and [so that you will begin to know] what the immeasurable and unlimited and surpassing greatness of His [active, spiritual] power is in us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of His mighty strength*
- *20 which He [h]produced in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places,*
- *21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion [whether angelic or human], and [far above] every name that is named [above every title that can be conferred], not only in this age and world but also in the one to come.*
- *22 And He [i]put all things [in every realm] in subjection under Christ's feet, and [i]appointed Him as [supreme and authoritative] head over all things in the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills and completes all things in all [believers].*

Praying...

- *“For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. Eph 1:15-16*
- Paul begins with **gratitude**. Two qualities stand out:
- **Faith in the Lord Jesus** — the vertical relationship.
- **Love for all the saints** — the horizontal relationship.
- These are the twin marks of authentic Christianity, *faith expressed through love* (Galatians 5:6).
- Spiritually, Paul is showing that **true spiritual maturity** begins not with mystical experiences or intellectual knowledge, but with **relational reality** - trust in Christ and love for His people.



Revelation...

- *“I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened...”*
- This is not a prayer for new blessings but for **new sight** — the unveiling of what’s already theirs in Christ.
- **“The Spirit of wisdom and revelation”** — not human intellect, but divine illumination.
- **“To know Him better”** — *epignōsis*, meaning deep, experiential knowledge, not mere information.
- Spiritually, Paul is asking that believers move from **knowing about God** to **knowing God personally**, through the **Spirit’s illumination**.
- “The eyes of your heart” refers to the **inner spiritual perception** — where truth becomes revelation, and doctrine becomes delight

Divine Revelation

Calling...

- “...in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people, and His incomparably great power for us who believe.”
Eph 1:18-19
- Paul prays for revelation in **three dimensions** of spiritual reality:
- **The Hope of His Calling**
- This is not wishful thinking, but *certainty* rooted in God’s eternal purpose.
- It’s the confident assurance that our lives are part of a divine plan leading to glory.
- Spiritually: knowing this hope brings **stability in trials** and **purpose in life**.
- Knowing God is to know His unique plan for your life.



Riches...

- **2.The Riches of His Glorious Inheritance in the Saints**
- Some interpret this as *our inheritance in Christ*, but Paul says *His inheritance in the saints*.
- Meaning: *we are God's treasure*, His prized possession.
- Spiritually: this reveals the Father's **affection and delight** in His people , we are His “glorious inheritance.”
- **The Surpassing Greatness of His Power for Believers**
- The same **resurrection power** that raised Jesus from the dead is now active in us (v.20).
- This is **dunamis** — dynamic, transforming power, not just potential.
- Spiritually: believers are not powerless; they are empowered by divine life itself.



Greatness...

- **The Surpassing Greatness of His Power for Believers**
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Far Above...

- Here Paul moves from revelation **about believers** to revelation **about Christ** — the **source** of all that has been described.
- **Resurrection power** — Christ has conquered death.
- **Enthronement** — He is seated at the Father's right hand, the place of supreme authority.
- **Dominion** — All powers, both earthly and spiritual, are beneath His feet.
- **Headship** — He reigns *for the Church*, not apart from it.
- **Fullness** — The Church is described as “*the fullness of Him who fills all in all*” — meaning the Body manifests the life and presence of the risen Christ on earth.

