Why Does God Record Prayers?

- Deut. 3:23-25
- 1Sam. 2:1-3
- **2** Sam. 7:22-27
- 1Kings 8:23-24
- II Chron 20:5-7
- **Ezra 9:5-15**
- Isaiah 25:1-2
- Dan. 9:3-19
- Acts 1:24
- Acts 4:24-25

Moses' to enter the land

Hannah Thanks for Samuel

David Thankful for Messiah

Solomon for temple

Jehoshaphat for help.

Ezra's confession of sins

Neh. 1:4-6; 9:3-38 Nehemiah for Jerusalem

Isaiah praises God

Daniel's Prayer of Confession

Apostles for Judas replaced

Prayer under persecution.

The Hope of Your Calling

- For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Rom. 15:4-5
- They are for our Learning
- They give us Hope
- They are examples we can learn from.
- Don't read through them quickly, ponder and seek to imitate them.

Why did Spirit Record Paul's Prayers?

- For The Ephesians (1:15-23)
- For the Ephesians (3:14-21)
- For the Philippians (1:9-11)
- For the Colossians (1:9-12)
- For Philemon (1:4-7)
- These are heartfelt prayers asking God to give these brethren what they most need.
- If Paul prayed for these things and the Holy Spirit chose to include them in the inspired text, it must be something very important.

For the Ephesians

• 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, Eph 1:15-18

 the eyes of your 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, 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 and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. Eph 1:18-21

Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation

- Spirit (1) Holy Spirit, (2) my spirit, (3) An attitude, state of mind?
- For the uninspired, always begins with (1) influencing (2) in order to create (3)
- Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. <u>Heb. 11:1-2</u>
- from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, <u>1Pet. 1:18-19</u>
- For we walk by faith, not by sight. 2Cor. 5:7
- When we see the "hoped for" and "unseen," "we walk by faith" away from the "aimless conduct"

Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation

- we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. 2 Cor 4:18
- Factual and emotional state of mind that allows us to chart our lives through reality of God's word.
- Not the "aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers" (1Pet. 1:18).
- All false reality removed. See all through the prism of Scripture "given by inspiration of God, profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness" 2Tim 3:15

Eyes of Our Heart Enlightened

- We use the "eyes of our heart" to see the "unseen"
- What Faith does: The substance/assurance of things hoped for. When faith makes it so real we can see it more clearly than the temporary and seen.
- When our heart is "enlightened" it is lit up with the truths revealed in the Scriptures.
- Abraham had these eyes when he saw he would have that son based on God's promise. He never wavered through unbelief.
- God is very interested in how real His promises really are to us. If we doubt, waver, still blind.

Eyes of Our Heart Enlightened

- By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear Heb 11:7
- he went out, not knowing where he was going.
- By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised.
- By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

Enlightened that You May Know

(1) THE HOPE OF HIS CALLING

(2) RICHES OF THE GLORY OF HIS INHERITANCE IN THE SAINTS

(3) EXCEEDING GREATNESS OF HIS POWER

The Hope of Your Calling

- Esteem the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward" Heb. 11:26
- sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us Rom. 8:18 'living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 2Pet 1:3-5

• These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. 15 And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them. Heb 11:13-16

Riches of Glory Of His Inheritance In The Saints

- Riches Abundance wealth
- Glory magnificence preeminence
- Determined both by quantity or quality.
- Millions of dollars
 Priceless Painting
- Gem Antique
- These are set by the one who sees it.
- His Inheritance:
- 1. God's inheritance of saints.
- 2. God's inheritance for saints.
- Already did 1 in the previous clause.

God's Inheritance

- Material Creation 2 Pet 3:10-12
- Souls of men and women are left
- Souls of the wicked.
- No Pleasure in their death. Ezek 33:11
- Cast into the lake of fire. Rev 20:11-15
- All that is left is the Saints

The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, 42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Mt 13:41-43

God's Inheritance is the Saints

- All that God has done in Gen 1-2
- All that God has done in the eternal purpose
- All that God has done... has only one return

 the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.
- His Inheritance The Saints;
- He sees them as riches and glory
- Like we would see a gold nugget; diamond; Antique, etc.
- We need to see it how he sees it!

The Saints are God's Inheritance

- The are the gold, silver precious stones God will receive at the end.
- We need to see this as God sees it!
- Changes our view of evangelism
- Changes our view of Edification
- Changes our view of church discipline
- Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints" Ps. 116:15

Eyes of Our Heart Enlightened

THE HOPE OF YOUR CALLING

• RICHES OF THE GLORY OF HIS INHERITANCE IN THE SAINTS

• EXCEEDING GREATNESS OF HIS POWER

- The Lord their God will save them in that day, As the flock of His people. For they shall be like the jewels of a crown, <u>Zech 9:16</u>
- another, And the Lord listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the Lord And who meditate on His name. 17 "They shall be Mine," says the Lord of hosts, "On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him." Mal 3:16-17

EXCEEDING GREATNESS OF HIS POWER

• Power- access to a substance like electricity or a material(fuel). makes things easier.

Greatness of His Power

- The gospel is the power of God to salvation to every one that believes <u>Rom. 1:16</u>
- The word of God, which also effectively works in you that believe. <u>1Th. 2:13</u>
- "as the rain and the snow watering the earth, making it bring forth and bud." Isa. 55:10-11
- For the word of God is living, and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword" Heb. 4:12