

# Paul Prays 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***:

● A prayer in response to what he had heard and knew they needed.

● When the Holy Spirit records Paul's prayer as inspiration, it is obviously something we need too.

● In our prayers we should imitate this.

● 1. Give thanks for the good things we hear or see.

● 2. Make what we think they need into a request to God.

# Paul's Request

- *18 the eyes of your heart being enlightened*
- *An inspired commentary of the results:*
- *while 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*
- *So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. 7 For we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. 2Cor 5:6*
- *The eyes of our heart are activated by faith in the “evidence of things not seen.” Heb. 11:1*

# Paul's Request

- *18 the eyes of your heart being enlightened*
- *... that you may **know***
- The ability to take what the Scriptures teach on heavenly things and make our heart lit up with them so that we can know them,
- Seeing them with the eyes of our heart.
- Greek “*eido*” became the Latin “*video*” brought into the English language for seeing in a film.
- It means to see and/or to know.
- When some one explains something to us and the lightbulb goes on in our minds and we say “*I see!*”

# 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, Eph 1:18-19*
- Do we know and can we see:
  - 1. The Hope of His calling
  - 2. The riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.
  - 3. The exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe.
- Paul prayed that God would open their eyes to these spiritual realities that can only be seen with the eyes of our heart.
- Can we see them?

# Steps to Enlightenment

- *Faith is the evidence of things not seen.*
- *Faith comes by hearing the word of Christ.*
- Step 1: Choose a spiritual reality revealed in God's word.
- Step 2: Find all the verses that reveal what we can know about it.
- Step 3: Learn to walk by faith and not by sight.
- Step 4: Learn to see the eternal unseen things and stop looking only at the temporary seen things.
- Make a spiritual video that you can “*watch*” “*see*” and “*know*”

# The Hope of His Calling

- Life after death in Paradise; Lk 23:43; Phil 1:21-24; 2Cor 12:1-8; Lk 9:29-31;
- Second Coming of Christ 1Th. 4:18-18; 1Cor 15:53-54; 2Pet. 3:10-13
- Resurrection 1Cor. 15:35-56; Phil 3:20; 1Jn 3:1-2
- Judgment Day Rev. 20:
- New Heaven & New Earth
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# Day of our Death

- *This very day be with Me in paradise*
- *To die is gain... is very far better*
- *Keep My word... never see death*
- *Lazarus died and carried by angels... comforted*
- *Moses and Elijah appear in glory*
- Can we “see” these things by faith?
- *Things that are unseen ... are eternal*
- We cheat ourselves out of the joy of our salvation if we do not “see” them.
- Where the “*grace of God*” shines the brightest.

# Day Jesus Comes Again

- *In the twinkling of an eye*
- *Trumpet will sound*
- *Jesus will appear in the clouds*
- *Voice of the archangel*
- *Dead in Christ rise*
- *We shall be changed*
- *Meet the Lord in the air*
- *Heavens will melt with fervent heat*
- *We look for a new heaven and a new earth.*



# Resurrection

- *we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is 1Jn. 1:2-3*
- *transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body Phil. 3:20-21*
- *as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man. 1Cor. 15:46-49*
- Can we see these eternal things?
- Are the eyes of our hearts enlightened?
- Can we see some form of video?

# So also is the Resurrection of the Dead

- 42 It is sown a perishable body
- it is raised an imperishable body;
- 43 it is sown in dishonor,
- it is raised in glory;
- it is sown in weakness,
- it is raised in power;
- 44 it is sown a natural body,
- it is raised a spiritual body.

# What is our Attitude?

- *comfort one another 1 Th. 4:18*
- *-- looking for and hastening (anticipation)*
- *who eagerly wait for Him Heb. 9:28*
- *like men who wait for their master, be Ready*
- *eagerly waiting for redemption of our body.*
- *we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord*
- *This World is not My Home*
- *Here we are but Straying Pilgrims*

# Riches of the Glory of His Inheritance

- *what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, Eph 1:18*
- His inheritance “*in*” not “for”
- “In” means “within the interior of some whole.”
- We are in the building.
- It is His inheritance within...
- Why say the same thing twice?
- It is the truth that God will only inherit the saints.

- Gen 1-2 Material Creation - Great Effort
- Desined to be burned up. – 2 Pet 3:10-12
- Only eternal souls are left
- Souls of the wicked.
- No Pleasure in their death. Ezek. 33:11
- Cast into the lake of fire. Rev. 20:11-15
- What is the only things left? What is the only thing God will receive out of all His efforts?
- The Saints

- Saints 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



# Saints are His “Jewels”

- *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, Zech 9:16*
- *Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one 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*

# What we see and consider: Our Choice

- while *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
- Walking by faith and not by sight 2Cor. 5:7
- Faith is the evidence of things not seen Heb. 1:1
- Not receiving, but seeing from afar embraced them
- We Reckon (logic) Heb. 11:13-16; Rom. 8:18
- We know (video) Eph. 1:18
- We Set our minds on things above Col. 3:1-3
- We Fix our eyes on Jesus. Heb. 12:2