

EPHESIANS 3:17-21

LESSON 20

The Fulness and Glory of God

1. Ephesians 3:16-19 – Prayer for Fulness /Perfection

- a. Paul's first prayer about you in Christ. His second (here) for Christ in you – Col 1:26-28
- b. 1) 3:16 - Inner man strengthened by his Spirit – 2 Cor 4:16-18, Rom 7:22
 - i. You need inner power to succeed – does your power come from Christ? Col 1:9
- c. 2) 3:17 - **Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith**
 - i. *“Christ... in your heart”* – If Christ dwells there, then there is no room for the law
 1. Law in the heart → Ps 40:8, 119:24, Prov 3:1, Heb 8:10 (Jer 31:33)
 2. Law in heart = you mind the law; Christ in heart = the mind of Christ
 - ii. *“by faith”* - Col 2:7 - not by any other way (sacraments, praise songs, feelings)
 - iii. *“rooted and grounded”* where? Rom 5:8, Rom 8:35,39
- d. 3) 3:18 – **Comprehend the scope/dimensions** – 4 dimensions describe the extent
 - i. The extent of what? His purpose, His riches/love toward you, His calling for you
 - ii. 3 dimensions in the physical world – breadth, length, height, but the spiritual?
 - iii. In time past, the dimensions were described in Acts 17:26, Gen 13:17, Exo, Eze
 - iv. Breadth = unto all, Eph 3:6-8, 1 Tim 2:4-6 vs. Matt 20:28, John 1:11, Matt 15:24
 - v. Length = longsuffering, his eternal purpose; Eph 3: 9-11, 1 Tim 1:16, 2 Pet3:9, 15
 - vi. Depth = dwell in you, the depths for you, depth of the cross – Eph 3:16-17;
 1. The deep things – 1 Cor 2:10; He descended – Joh 3:13, Ro 10:7, Eph 4:9
 - vii. Height = heavenlies, high calling – Eph 2:6-7, 3:10
- e. 4) 3:19 – **Know the love of Christ** - Rom 5:8 which is unsearchable Eph 2:7, Eph 3:8
 - i. The law of Christ (Gal 6:2) is not the law of Deu 6:5
 - ii. If it passes knowledge, then it must be spiritual reality – 2 Cor 5:14-15, Phil 4:7
 - iii. This love is not found in the law, but in Christ – the principle in a person, event
- f. 5) 3:19 – **Be filled with all the fullness of God**
 - i. How are we to be filled? With knowledge - Rom 15:14, with the Spirit Eph 5:18, love and judgment Phil 1:9-11, filled with joy 2 Tim 1:4
 - ii. There is an order, the fullness of God bears His fruit – Col 1:9-11, Gal 5:22
 - iii. His fullness is found in Christ – Col 1:19, 2:9, Eph 4:13

2. Ephesians 3:20 – Above All We Ask or Think

- a. A better promise than “ask-n-receive” promises found in John 16:24, 1Jo 5:15, Ps 37:4
- b. If we understand and trust the will of God to work, then we don't have to be in control
- c. We pray because God is able to do, b/c he has given power, b/c we know not Ro 8:26

3. Ephesians 3:21 – To God Be the Glory – Rom 16:27, Rom 11:26, Phil 2:11

- a. Christ's power so great he rose from the dead (ch.1), he created a new man (ch 2), and gave this power to you (ch 3) – to walk worthy (4) follow God (5) stand in His power(6)
- b. The glory is found in you 3:13, according to him 3:16, and unto him 3:21