

A Prayer For Those Who Have Everything

Eph. 1:15-23

Paul was committed to pray for others. 15-16

- First, repeated thanks are offered for their faith and love.
- Second, repeated requests are made for specifics in 17ff.

Our real need is a deepened awareness of our privileges. 17-23

This prayer for wisdom, knowledge and enlightenment is similar to prayers in Phil. 1:8,9, Col.1:9-12.

1) the hope of His calling (18a)

Our privileged hope: 4:1,4, Col. 1:5, 27, I Pt. 1:3

His calling recalls 1:4,5, as choosing / calling are closely linked (I Cor. 1:26,27, II Pt. 1:10).

2) the riches of the glory of His inheritance (18b)

Inheritance recalls 1:11,14 / I Pt. 1:4, For riches, see 1:7, 2:7

3) the surpassing greatness of His power (19a)

Power available to us: 3:7,16,20, II Tim. 1:7, Col. 1:11, Acts 1:8

Power in our message: Rom. 1:16, I Cor. 1:18,24

Power in our activity: I Cor. 4:20, II Cor. 10:4,5, Phil. 4:13

This power is seen in operation with Christ's resurrection and exaltation, 20ff. Note power-terms: *strength, greatness, power, above rule, authority, dominion, subjection, head of, etc.*)

