Sustainer of all things (Colossians 1:17): In Him, all things hold together and have order.
 Head of the Church (Colossians 1:18): Jesus leads and governs the body of believers.
 Firstborn from the dead (Colossians 1:18): The first to rise, guaranteeing eternal life for others.

Preeminent in all things (Colossians 1:18): Christ holds the highest place in everything. This passage highlights God's immense desire for believers to know His will, grow in spiritual maturity, be empowered, and live in the fullness of Christ's victory and authority.

SUMMARY

1. Growing in Spiritual Understanding and Knowledge of God

- **Ephesians 1:15-23:** Believers are called to receive the **spirit of wisdom and revelation**, with their hearts enlightened to know the hope of God's calling, the riches of their inheritance, and the greatness of His power toward them.
- **Ephesians 3:14-21:** This growth includes being rooted in love, comprehending the breadth and depth of God's love, and being filled with His fullness.
- **Colossians 1:9-18:** It emphasizes being filled with knowledge, wisdom, and understanding of His will, which leads to a life worthy of the Lord and pleasing to Him.

2. Experiencing God's Transformative Power and Love

- **Ephesians 1:19-20:** Believers are empowered by the same mighty power that raised Christ and seated Him in heavenly places.
- **Ephesians 3:16-20:** God's strength empowers the inner being, enabling believers to live by faith, experience Christ's indwelling presence, and trust in His ability to exceed all expectations.
- **Colossians 1:11-14:** This power delivers believers from darkness, strengthens them with endurance and joy, and provides redemption and forgiveness through Christ.

3. Living Under the Supremacy and Authority of Christ

- **Ephesians 1:21-23:** Christ is exalted far above all powers and given as head over the church, which is His body and the fullness of Him.
- **Colossians 1:15-18:** Christ, the image of the invisible God, is the Creator, Sustainer, and Preeminent One. He leads the church and ensures believers' inheritance as part of His kingdom.
- **Ephesians 3:21:** This culminates in glorifying God in the church and through Christ, demonstrating His eternal dominion and authority.

These three points encapsulate God's overarching plan for believers: to grow in knowledge of Him, be empowered by His love and power, and live under Christ's supreme authority while reflecting His glory. Through this close intimate relationship we are becoming more like Him.



Holy Spirit Inspired Prayers and their Purposes

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Ephesians 1:17–23 (NKJV) — 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, 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, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 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. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 1:15-23 (NKJV):

1. Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation (Ephesians 1:17)

Wisdom: The ability to understand and apply God's truths in life. **Revelation**: Insight into the knowledge of God, His character, and His plans.

2. Enlightened Understanding (Ephesians 1:18)

Eyes of your understanding being enlightened: <u>Spiritual awareness</u> and clarity. To know the hope of His calling: Assurance of the purpose and destiny God has for believers.

The riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints: Understanding the eternal value and blessings believers have as God's heirs.

3. Exceeding Greatness of His Power (Ephesians 1:19)

Toward us who believe: God's power is actively working for and in believers. **According to His mighty power**: An unlimited power.

4. Resurrection Power in Christ (Ephesians 1:20)

Raised Christ from the dead: God's power demonstrated in raising Jesus.

Seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places: Christ's authority and exaltation in heaven.

5. Christ's Supremacy Over All (Ephesians 1:21)

Far above all principality, power, might, and dominion: Jesus' authority surpasses every spiritual and earthly power.

Every name that is named: Christ's name is above all others in this age and the one to come.

6. Christ as Head of the Church (Ephesians 1:22)

All things under His feet: Christ has dominion over all creation.

Head over all things to the church: Jesus leads and governs the body of believers.

7. The Church as Christ's Body (Ephesians 1:23)

The fullness of Him who fills all in all: The church is the expression of Christ's presence and glory on earth.

This passage highlights God's desire for believers to grow in wisdom, spiritual understanding, and awareness of His power, while living in the assurance of Christ's supremacy and their identity as part of His body.

Ephesians 3:14–21 (NKJV) — For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:14-21 (NKJV):

1. Strengthened with Might in the Inner Man (Ephesians 3:16)

Granting strength through His Spirit: God desires to empower believers from within. According to the riches of His glory: This strength is abundant and limitless, drawn from His divine resources.

2. Christ Dwelling in Our Hearts Through Faith (Ephesians 3:17)

Christ living in us: A personal and ongoing relationship with Jesus by faith. **Rooted and grounded in love**: Establishing a firm foundation in God's love as the basis for life and relationships.

3. Comprehending the Immensity of God's Love (Ephesians 3:18)

With all the saints: This understanding is shared in community with other believers. The width, length, depth, and height of His love: God's love is vast, all-encompassing, and beyond human dimensions.

4. Knowing the Love of Christ (Ephesians 3:19)

Surpassing knowledge: Christ's love transcends intellectual understanding; it is experienced.

Filled with all the fullness of God: Experiencing complete spiritual satisfaction and the presence of God in our lives.

5. Trusting in God's Ability to Do More Than We Can Imagine (Ephesians 3:20)

Exceedingly abundantly above all we ask or think: God's power and plans surpass human expectations.

Power at work in us: His power operates through believers to accomplish extraordinary things.

6. Glorifying God in the Church and Through Christ (Ephesians 3:21)

Glory to God in the church: The collective body of Christ honors and exalts Him. To all generations, forever and ever: God's glory is eternal, spanning all ages through Christ Jesus.

This passage emphasizes God's desire for believers to experience His strength, love, and fullness while glorifying Him through Christ for generations to come. It highlights the richness of His grace and the depth of His love for His people.

Colossians 1:9–18 (NKIV) — For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Colossians 1:9-18 (NKJV):

- Filled with Knowledge, Wisdom, and Understanding (Colossians 1:9) Knowledge of His will: To understand His purpose and plan for our lives. All wisdom: To apply divine truths practically in life. Spiritual understanding: Insight into spiritual matters for discernment.
- 2. Walk Worthy of the Lord and Be Fully Pleasing to Him (Colossians 1:10)

 A worthy walk: Living a life that reflects God's character and calling.
 Fully pleasing Him: Aligning actions, thoughts, and motives to His will.
 Being fruitful in every good work: Producing good deeds and positive impact.
 Increasing in the knowledge of God: Growing deeper in relationship with and understanding of God.
- 3. Strengthened with Divine Power (Colossians 1:11)

Strengthened with all might: Receiving supernatural strength from God. According to His glorious power: Empowered by God's infinite strength. Patience and longsuffering with joy: Enduring trials with perseverance and joy.

- 4. Thanksgiving and Qualification for Inheritance (Colossians 1:12)
 Giving thanks to the Father: Gratefulness for His blessings and grace.
 Qualified as partakers: Being made worthy through Christ to share in the inheritance.
 Inheritance of the saints in the light: A share in God's eternal kingdom.
- Delivered and Transferred into Christ's Kingdom (Colossians 1:13)
 Delivered from the power of darkness: Freedom from sin and spiritual bondage. Conveyed into the kingdom of His Son: Brought into the reign and rule of Jesus.
- 6. Redemption and Forgiveness (Colossians 1:14) Redemption through His blood: Freedom purchased by Jesus' sacrifice. Forgiveness of sins: Complete cleansing and pardon of wrongdoing.
- 7. Revelation of Christ's Supremacy (Colossians 1:15-18) Image of the invisible God: Christ reveals the unseen God. Firstborn over all creation: Preeminent in rank, authority, and glory.

Creator of all things (Colossians 1:16): Everything in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, was made by Him, through Him, and for Him.