

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 1:15-20

PAUL OFTEN PRAYS FOR THE SAINTS.

• Prayer For The Philippians

Philippians 1:9-11, "And this I pray,

1. *That your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and all discernment;*
2. *So that ye may approve the things that are excellent;*
3. *That ye may be sincere and void of offence unto the day of Christ;*
4. *Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are through Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God."*

PAUL OFTEN PRAYS FOR THE SAINTS.

• Prayer For The Colossians.

Colossians 1:9-14, "For this cause we also, since the day we heard (it), do not cease to pray and make request for you,

1. *That ye may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,*
2. *To walk worthily of the Lord unto all pleasing, bearing fruit in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;*
3. *Strengthened with all power, according to the might of his glory, unto all patience and longsuffering with joy;*
4. *Giving thanks unto the Father, who made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; who delivered us out of the power of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love; in whom we have our redemption, the forgiveness of our sins."*

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS Ephesians 1:15-20

Verses 3-14

Seven Spiritual Blessings Named:

Ephesians 1:4, "He chose us in him before the foundation of the world"

Ephesians 1:5, "foreordained us unto adoption as sons through Jesus Christ"

Ephesians 1:6, "his grace, which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved"

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS Ephesians 1:15-20

Verses 3-14

Seven Spiritual Blessings Named:

Ephesians 1:7, "Redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses"

Ephesians 1:9, "Making known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he purposed in him"

Ephesians 1:11, "in whom also we were made a heritage"

Ephesians 1:13, "in whom ye also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, - in whom, having also believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise"

Paul recognizes the faith and love of the Ephesians. 1:15-16

➤ Heard of your faith. Colossians 1:4;
1 Thessalonians. 1:2-3, 8

➤ Heard of your love. John 13:34-35;
Romans 12:9ff; 1 John 4:20

**"Cease not to give thanks for you ..."
Romans 1:8ff**

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS Ephesians 1:15-20

That they might know God. (1:17)

- Titus 1:16, "They profess that they know God; but by their works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate."
- Essential to eternal life. John 17:3
- Failure to know God leads to everlasting destruction! 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9
- This knowledge comes through close personal association with God. cf. 2 Timothy 1:12ff

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS Ephesians 1:15-20

This knowledge of God comes by
"a Spirit of wisdom and Revelation" (1:17)
cf. Colossians 1:9

- Through study of God's word.
Psalms 119:105, 130
 - Requires a love of truth.
2 Thessalonians 2:10ff
 - Requires diligence. Ephesians 3:3-4; 4:3-6
 - Requires putting off, putting on.
Ephesians 4:20ff

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS Ephesians 1:15-20

That they may know "... His calling." (1:18)

- Requires that their eyes be open.
cf. Acts 26:18; Matthew 13:15f
- Called by the gospel. 2 Thessalonians 2:14
- Called into his own kingdom and glory.
1 Thessalonians 2:10-12
- Called into God's marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9
- Called out of the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of Christ. Colossians 1:13-14

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS Ephesians 1:15-20

That they may know **"What is the HOPE of His calling."** (1:18)

- The word **"hope"** means "desire with expectation"
- What is the expectant desire of this **"calling"** by God?
- Place of HOPE. Romans 8:24-25; Philippians 3:14, 20-21; 2 Peter 1:10

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS Ephesians 1:15-20

That they may know **"What is the HOPE of His calling."** (1:18)

- Paul has already revealed some of this hope in verses 4-5
 - To be holy and without blemish
 - To be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ
- Paul will reveal more about it later in the epistle – cf. Ephesians 2:19-22; 5:26-27

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS Ephesians 1:15-20

That they may know the **"RICHES of the glory of His inheritance."** (1:18)

- God is glorified in His heritage ...
Ephesians 1:11
- Saints are counted by God as great riches or wealth. cf. 1 Peter 2:9-10
- Inheritance. *"fellow heirs."*
Ephesians 2:12-13

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS Ephesians 1:15-20

That they may know the **"exceeding greatness of His POWER."** (1:19-20; 3:7, 20)

- Paul gives an example in Ephesians 2:1-6
 - We who were **"dead in trespasses"** (2:1-3) were **"made alive"** (4-5) and **"raised up"** (6)
- Those in Christ were spiritually dead, have been made spiritually alive. cf. Colossians 2:12-13; cf. Matthew 22:29
- Just as God raised Jesus from the dead.

God's power seen in both.

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS Ephesians 1:15-20

That THEY might know:

- God.
- The hope of God's calling.
- The riches of God's inheritance.
- The power of God.

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR US 15

That WE might know:

- God.
- The hope of God's calling.
- The riches of God's inheritance.
- The power of God.

GOD'S DESIRE FOR US 16

- That we increase in our understanding, appreciation, and application of these blessings.
- NOTE: Before growth can occur, there must be life!
 - Have you been **"made alive together with Christ?"** Ephesians 2:5-6; Colossians 2:12-13

HAVE YOU BEEN "MADE ALIVE TOGETHER WITH CHRIST?" 17 EPHESIANS 2:5-6; COLOSSIANS 2:12-13

Hear the Word. Romans 10:17
Believe the Gospel. Mark 16:16
Repent. Acts 2:38
Confess Faith. Acts 8:37
Be Baptized. Acts 2:38
Live Faithfully. Revelation 2:10