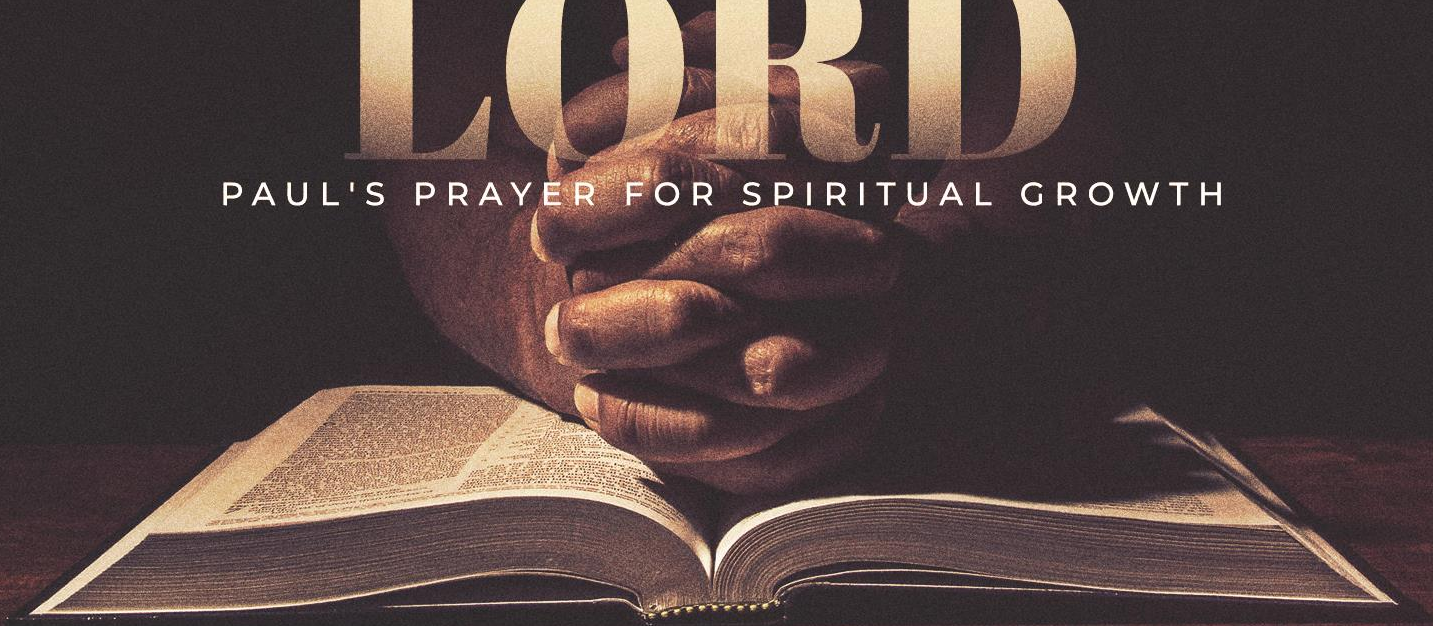



OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART LORD

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH




For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

Ephesians 1:15-17



I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,

Ephesians 1:18-20



far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 1:21-23

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians



Context of the Prayer




- Chosen before the foundation of the world (v.4)
- Adopted as God's children through Jesus (v.5)
- Redeemed through His blood and forgiven (v.7)
- Revealed God's will to unite all things under Christ (v.9–10)
- Sealed with the Holy Spirit, our guarantee of future glory (v.13–14)

Heart of the Prayer

- That God may give you the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation (vs. 17)
- That the eyes of your heart may be enlightened (vs. 18)

Heart of the Prayer

- That God may give you the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation (vs. 17)
- ❖ So that you may know Him better



➤ That the eyes of your heart may be
enlightened ...

So that you may know-

- ❖ the hope to which He has called you – vs 19a
- ❖ the riches of His glorious inheritance – vs 19b
- ❖ His incomparably great power for us – vs 20

Hope to which He has called you

What is this “hope”?

- ❖ His gracious invitation to salvation
- ❖ A new identity in Christ
- ❖ A secure future with Him

Riches of His Inheritance



What is this “inheritance”?

- ❖ We have an inheritance (vs 14)
- ❖ We are God's inheritance (vs.18)

Riches of His Inheritance

- ❖ We are God's inheritance (vs.18)
 - We are deeply valued
 - We belong to Him
 - Gives purpose for our life
 - Builds unshakable security in us

His incomparably great power



...His incomparably great power for us who believe (vs.19)

- ❖ Resurrection power
- ❖ Ascension power
- ❖ Cosmic authority power

His incomparably great power

❖ That power empowers us to

- ❖ Overcome sin
- ❖ Endure suffering
- ❖ Love boldly
- ❖ Live victoriously

His incomparably great power

❖ That power empowers us

- ❖ Overcome sin
- ❖ Endure suffering
- ❖ Love boldly
- ❖ Live victoriously

What is Our Prayer Today?

- ❖ That the Lord will give us the spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that:
 - ❖ we can know and experience Him in our everyday life in new ways
- ❖ That the Lord will open our spiritual eyes, so that:
 - ❖ We can fully understand the hope of His calling
 - ❖ We can realize that we are His treasured possession
 - ❖ We can experience His incomparably great power



Now to him who is able to do
immeasurably more than all we ask or
imagine, according to his power that is at
work within us, to him be glory in the
church and in Christ Jesus throughout all
generations, for ever and ever. Amen.