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Okay, we're back into our Thursday night study of Ephesians. We're in the second part of our resources in Christ, which basically is Ephesians chapter 1 verses 15 through 23, which tonight will end the chapter, this chapter. And this chapter is focused on the entirety of God's plan.

And guys need to realize that basically everything we've talked about to date, and even what we're going to talk about now, was done before the foundation of the world. So it was done before we were even born. So all of this, even like we had Tuesday night, where I took some time and I went over what was the true creation.

The true creation is not, you know, the water and the sky and all that stuff. That's a physical creation. The true creation was in God's mind before the foundation of the world.

Okay, that's the true creation. So what I tried to do on Tuesday was walk us through that entire process. So we really got to focus handle on what creation is, because creation is not Genesis 1, chapter 1. Okay, that's not creation.

Creation happened before that. And that is what's true. And when we get into reconstructing Genesis 1 through 6, we're going to actually put this in a process that basically lays out everything from the beginning and walk us through the time.

So, you know, I have to tell you, and I alluded this to a little earlier before we hit the record button, that I'm your watchman. I'm your spiritual leader. And you guys are in my heart all the time.

You got to understand that. So, and I pray for you guys every day. And it seems in the current situation that we're in, that the burdens that you are all carrying are very, very different and very, very unique.

Life has changed. Your life has changed, okay, dramatically. Matter of fact, for all of us.

And I just want you to know that, guys, I'm praying for the Lord to give us all the wisdom and revelation and the knowledge of Him so that we can keep our focus not on what's going on in this world, but on Him in a time like this, okay? And that's very difficult. And I feel that, okay, that to me yesterday was, and I spoke to this on Tuesday. I said, okay, this is happening.

And it just crescendoed all through Tuesday and Tuesday night. It went through all day Wednesday. And the burden that I feel, while it's real attack on me in a lot of ways, the burden I feel is for you.

Why? Because we're investing a lot of time and effort to understand what the Scriptures are actually telling us. And it applies no matter what the environment is. But if we get wrapped up in the environment, we're not going to notice what God is trying to tell us through the Scripture to actually give us the peace and hope and joy in this time.

So I want to start tonight, not in Ephesians, but Romans 1, okay? Because I want us to understand what it means to live in God's judgment as a society, because that's what we're going through. We're going through a process of God's judgment that we cannot change, no matter what we do. No election is going to change this.

Nothing like that is going to change any of this that's going on. This is God's judgment, and I want to show you why, okay? So if we go to Romans chapter 1, starting in verse 18, it says that the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who hold the truth in unrighteousness. So he's saying that what Paul is telling us is God's wrath.

His judgment comes. We've gone through many judgments, guys. Every time you feel like you're getting disciplined, that's a judgment that God has put on you to convict you that you're doing something wrong.

We don't live in a society where these preachers that we've been taught are waiting upon God's judgment at the end of the age. That's not reality. Judgment happens every day of our life in some form or fashion.

He might be pruning you. He might be cutting off a limb. He might be doing this or whatever, but we're under constant judgment in order to live the life that Christ wants us to live, and we can't change that.

We can't change that. So if there would ever be a nation of people who held the truth, it would certainly be our nation as well as probably all the other Western world nations. Why? Because we have the Bible.

We have free ability to read and study the Bible. We've had the revelation of God. Gosh, we were able to do these classes and reveal God's Word in such a way to us that it becomes our truth.

Not a lot of countries can do that. So if every nation was going to hold the truth of the gospel and the truth of our history, the Bible is true history, guys. We've already started learning, doing history.

If we're ever going to understand the truth in a nation, we're probably going to lead the pack. We're all very aware that there has been a rejection in our nation closer towards Christ. There's not one politician, and I don't care Democrat or Republican, one politician in this government that does not have one foot in one side and one foot on the other side, at least.

They played the game. They played the game to get in office. So if you think everybody in your governmental state or national is, oh, this guy is truly not, guys, everybody had to play to get in there.

There's not one in any office, state, local, state, or national government that is not playing those sites. So in reality, there's no way an election is going to change that. Why? Because an election and the politicians are going to—the election's going to change.

The people get to vote those people in the office that they want, but those people might not be the right people, okay? If you don't do your homework about the people to understand their reality as their truth on gospel governance, then we're going to elect the same people all over again. That's just reality. So we can't fix this.

Why? Because we can't get in the mind of the people that are running for office. You get what I'm saying? The only person that can do that in this whole universe is Christ. That's it.

So if you're not partnered with Christ in all of the efforts associated with the governance of our nation, then you're missing the boat. So I want to go back to Romans chapter 1. It defines the wrath of God. It says this is what it is.

God, when He judges the society for rejecting Him, turns them over to a sexual revolution. That's in verse 18. That's the first thing that happens with a society.

And our sexual revolution started in the 60s and lasted through the 70s and has continued since that time. I could tell you stories about living through that. Don't think you would like a lot of my stories in this regard, but I lived it.

So God, when He judges the society for rejecting Him, He turns them over to a sexual revolution. It's explicit. Now we've had that back in the 60s.

That was the first sign of this country going to divine judgment. Now, not a lot of us even knew that. We were just having fun.

But the path our politicians allowed us to go through had already been laid out since the 1930s. I'm not going to get into a history lesson on all of that stuff, but I'm going to tell you that the path that we ended up in in the 60s was put forth in the 30s. I'm in Romans chapter 1 properly.

Okay, so He lets men go into sexual unrighteousness, pornography, really the death of any sense of biblical morality. Our morality went out the window in the 1960s. But there's a second step in Romans 1, and that is where there will be a sexual revolution first, and then there will be a homosexual revolution.

Now guys, you just look at Scripture and it lays out how the judgment of society works. Paul explicitly mentions that men with men, women with women, and this produces many effects. One he talks about, I think, is referring even to venereal disease, which basically we can equate that to AIDS.

The Bible is quickly to talk about the end result of society when you go into this stuff. So when God judges a nation that has rejected his truth, now that's what we're talking about is his truth. When a nation rejects his truth, there will be a sexual revolution followed by a homosexual revolution, which we've been watching for at least two decades.

And what have we done about it? What have we done about it? Now remember, judgment comes to everybody. But the third point is this. He says, God gives them over.

Romans chapter one, sorry, he says, I give you over. I give you over to sexual perversion. Guys, it gives him over to, he allows it, and he actually pushes you into it.

Then God gives them over to a reprobate mind. That's where we're at right now. What's a reprobate mind? It's a non-functioning mind.

And what does it mean? This final step in divine judgment is a kind of insanity where nothing makes sense. And out of that, Paul in Romans chapter one lists a long list of every imaginable kind of wickedness. Go read it.

That's where we're at. Everything in that list is happening today. And that will literally flood and drown a society.

It will drown us. In the middle of the truthless is deceit and hatred for God. What in the world are we experiencing today? Every time we turn, they're telling us what is moral is now evil.

What is evil is moral. What we understand to be good is evil. What evil is good.

What we think a male is, is now a female. What we think a female is, is now a male. We are such an insane society because why? We're in the judgment.

And those of you, don't take this wrong. Those of you ask, what is this going to stop? It's not. So there's a reason why this country is in the insanity that it is in.

And it is the judgment of God. God has allowed this nation that has rejected him. That is the problem.

This nation rejected him. They took what? Prayer out of school. They first put the Supreme Court, allowed abortion.

The second thing they did is they took prayer out of school. The third thing they did is they took commandments out. Think about everything that we have allowed our nation to do.

So God has allowed this nation that has rejected him to go down the path of Roman's wine through a sexual revolution, a homosexual revolution to the point where there is an insanity that really makes no sense to any thinking person. God calls this a reprobate mind. It's a mind that does not function.

There's no reality checks in a reprobate mind. And out of that mind that doesn't function comes every imaginable kind of evil. Do you even ever imagine that on international television at the most important sports event in our history that allows people to compete at the very highest level, there was a God given skill that they would actually mock God.

Did you watch it? Did you watch it? Why? You should have turned it off. You should have turned it off because basically that what you see, you can't unsee. That's the reason why I've said if you are programming your mind with filth and immorality in television shows, movies, books, or whatever, you need to evaluate yourself.

Same thing, guys. You're allowing it to continue. So it was John Calvin who made the interesting statement that when God judges the people, he gives them wicked rulers.

What do we have? When God judges the people, he gives them wicked rulers. So this judgment of God that has sent us down this careening path of transgression, inequity, and sin is also aided and abetted by wicked rulers because they tend to be the architects of all of this. And how do they get there? We put them there.

If not overtly, covertly they're doomed. So I just want to say that when you look at this in the light of divine judgment, what's going on in this world, when you look at it in the light of divine judgment, what is happening to our country, the chaos, the insanity, the freaking nonsense, the things that you can't figure out, the confusion, the disorder, or disruption is all part of a divine judgment. And if you understand it that way, you're going to realize that you cannot fix it.

And if you can't fix it, why do you waste your time to think about it? It cannot be fixed. It's a divine judgment and it is obviously unleashed on all of us. And we're in the final stage, the stage of insanity where nothing makes sense.

So the folly of all follies in a situation like this is to think there's anything you can do in the human realm to stop the divine judgment of God. You can't. If you allow yourself to think about those things, you've taken your mind off of that which you should be thinking about, which is the role you play in this situation.

You become part of the situation instead of becoming part of a solution underneath God's control. So we can't change it. That's not even possible.

This is God judging, and he laid it out in detail in Romans 1. We're under judgment at a severe level, and the most severe level revealed in scripture short of final global judgment yet to come at the end of the age and eternal judgment in hell. In other words, every judgment that God did throughout the scriptures is exactly what we're going through. How many times did the Hebrews do this? Okay, they went through judgment.

We think as a country and as a citizen, we're well above that. It can't happen to us. That is so fable, because who can control God? Nobody.

What is wrong in this country is not fixable, and what is wrong in this world is not fixable in the physical realm. This is God bringing judgment. I said we are everybody, and I've said God's going to reveal himself.

He's going to do it, and when he does it, it's going to be very biblical. The good news is that he protects his people in the judgment. Go back and look at scripture, okay, and that he covers over all of us.

If we're living in an obedient life underneath the covenant of God, then we are not only protected, we're provided for. So what do you do when you get into this scenario? You be obedient to God, because if not, you get outside of that. You're going to be caught up in the judgment.

Now you need to be more obedient to God than ever. We are in the shelter of his protection. We are safe from the wrath to come, and we are protected in the current judgment, but I want you to understand that what we're trying to do for the last 18 months here in the midst of all of this is not to fix what's going wrong in society, but it is to give you knowledge in the wisdom of Christ so that you know what you need to do in his calling at this time.

I say we're trying to teach you to become shepherds of your local men, your local family, your community, because when things get broken loose, everybody's going to go in complete chaos, and there has to be some stability in that area. That's you, guys. So Paul says, I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jews and Gentiles.

Now we're going to get into the unity of the church and the unity of the body of Christ starting in chapter 2, but what Paul is setting the stage here is the fact that it is our total responsibility, our total responsibility, is to preach and teach the gospel. That has been our responsibility from day one. That doesn't change in judgment, okay, and we're not to be ashamed of doing that, and that is our only answer.

That is how we operate in this time, is we have to be the lights. We have to be the truth tellers. We have to be those that are going to help people, but remember, you're helping them with their soul.

You might facilitate some physical manifestations of some needs, but your focus is to help them with their soul, because if you don't, you get caught up in the world, okay? You have to focus your attention on what God tells us to do. This is the only hope which is in Christ, guys, and the only appropriate response to Christ is to embrace him as the Lord and Savior and to embrace his glorious gospel. Robert? Yeah, Jim, just a quick question.

Do you think we could have a potential global revival when all this evil is exposed? For example, this child trafficking is totally exposed. It's adrenochrome. Do you think it's potential there that'll wake people up to the evil in the world and it could create a revival? I can see it happening.

Well, yeah, and I think it is already starting to happen, okay? If you were to get in, not to the weeds, but to detail, you're going to see that it has already started to happen country by country today. I think that Olympic was a big mistake. I mean, I think that was an ignition point.

That's just an opinion. Well, you know what? And that's true, but I'm going to tell you what, it opened a hell of a lot of eyes. Pardon my French.

It really opened a lot of eyes as to what this is all about. Okay, so I just want you to understand our focus here is on what Christ is telling us to do. And we're learning about who this Christ is in our study of Ephesians.

So what I'm saying to you is don't expect it to get better. It's going to get worse before it ever starts to get better. And it raises the stakes for what we as believers in the world are called to do.

And while so many corporate churches, ranging from the liberal churches to even the evangelical churches, are caught up in trying to fix what is wrong in the world, that's not what Christ said. Okay, Christ said, teach, preach the gospel and I control the world. Everything is a result of judgment, even the racial hostility, the insanity of teaching people to hate and living on the vengeance and revenge.

All of these kinds of things are part and partial of what happens to a culture when God lets them go. They go into an insanity where nothing makes sense. And that is exactly where we are.

So for us, we know the truth. Okay, we're talking about the truth. We're continuing to do that because we have the mind of Christ in the Word of God.

Okay, so now I want to, as I wrote this sentence, I said, okay, I got to stop here. Because the Scripture says we have the mind of God, okay, when we're saved, right? That's what Scripture said, we have the mind of God. Where is the mind of God? Where's the mind of God, guys? Come on.

In us. It's in us, but it's fueled by His Word because that is His true mind. Go back to sanctification.

You receive the Holy Spirit, but that doesn't give you the ability to utilize Christ's mind. The only way how you're going to utilize Christ's mind and know how to do it is to study His Word, which is His mind. Everything in the Scripture is Christ's mind.

It's the thoughts of God. So while you have been taught that in your salvation, you get the Holy Spirit and the mind of Christ comes inside of you, which is His Spirit. Remember, the Spirit that's inside of you is Christ.

We're going to get more into that in the prayer activity in the document reviewing the prayer stuff. But the more you understand that that's just the vehicle, the process is your sanctification. So the mind of Christ is the Word of God.

Don't you get that? And our responsibility is not somewhere to figure out how to fix the world, but how to proclaim the gospel that can deliver people from the world, from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God's dear Son. Remember, we just learned in the last couple of weeks session that everything is rolled up in Christ. That means Christ owns everything, good and evil.

He owns everything. The church needs to focus on the person of Christ and sadly it's all over the place on social issues which cannot be fixed. First of all, because people are sinful and what's wrong in the world in society is a reflection of that sin.

And secondly, because that sin is compounded when God removes normal divine restraint and it becomes a judgment. If I were to make this an analogy to you, the Holy Spirit can constrain the world from sin and protected us. The Holy Spirit lives inside of you.

Now I want you to think about this because it goes back to what we talked about just a few minutes ago, but it's not constraining the world anymore. Nothing's held back from the world anymore. Your only protectorate is your obedience to Christ.

If you're not obedient to Christ in everything you do, we're going to get we're going to talk about that even further down, in everything you do then your spiritual relationship with him is deficient and that area is open to demonic influence. So while you think God is protecting you from this world, think about that. There's been many conversations about how God's protecting us, but the Holy Spirit basically has been withdrawn from the world because it's now in judgment.

It's only inside of you to protect you. So the judgment is that sinners get what they want and it gets worse and worse and worse. Why? Because there's no constraint.

That's the reason why your cities and the towns and everything around you feels like it's getting worse. It's going to get worse, or if that's not a word, all right, it's going to get more worse. Wherever you English people want to say it, it's going to get bad.

The church has one calling in the midst of all of this and that is to be the church. It should be, it should dawn on us about now, if it hasn't already, that the church, to reach the world, it can't keep trying to be like the world. It amazes me and we've talked about this many, many times, especially when we talk about, and I don't want to pick on anybody, and this unconditional love in society.

That's what started the freaking sexual revolution back in the 60s. It was all unconditional love. Matter of fact, you could make love on the freaking sidewalk and nobody would say anything.

It amazes me that the world is cultivating hate and trying to put it in elementary schools and all of that, and we're allowing it to happen. Then you have evangelical churches feeling like they need to adapt to those issues of the world and filling the churches with the same kind of deceptive ideologies. It's okay for homosexuals to come into this church.

It's okay whether we all marry homosexuals. It's okay to have a pastor be a homosexual. Guys, and we go to some of those churches.

Some of you go to churches that have issues, and I've said, if you're not into the doctrine of your church to figure out where it is, you're part of that judgment that's going to come on that church. All it does is rip and shred and tear everything up. You have to see those things for what they are.

You guys have got to start understanding that this is not a fixable world. We don't control the world. We're not even a citizen of this world.

They're not fixable. They're a reflection of fallen sinfulness, a reflection of a nation that has been abandoned by God, and a reflection of divine judgment itself. I want that to sink in.

So what do we do in a time like this? Well, we have a very clear calling, and that was to preach and teach the gospel of Jesus Christ. The church needs to become Christ-centered. For the church to reach the world, it has to stop trying to be like the world, because why would you want to identify with a society under judgment? Understand that what's going wrong in our society is divine judgment.

We have to be the church. We have to be the haven. We have to be the eye of the hurricane.

We have to be the safe place. What have we talked about for years, getting you educated to become just that? We have to be the place where Christ is exalted and the Word of God is proclaimed. Truth is known and believed and lived and taught.

We have the mind of Christ. It's in the pages of Scripture. Jesus said in John 12, if I be lifted up, I will draw men to myself.

This is the time for the church to focus on lifting up Christ. And that, of course, is the theme of the text that we've been looking at in Ephesians, is understanding who this Christ is and what is our life to be in accordance to his purpose. So now let's go back to chapter one of Ephesians.

And let me give us some exaltation to this epistle, this marvelous epistle directed at the church. And the life of the church starts out with the entire first chapter that is as magnificent a portrait of Christ as you will find anywhere in the Bible. It is so profound and it ties the person of Christ to who? His people.

You now know how you're tied to Christ. It shows us Christ and it shows us our place in Christ. Now you remember going back in verse three, this amazing comprehensive statement, blessed be the God and the Father, our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.

So in the middle of the judgment, we are blessed and our blessings are what? In Christ. And follow the flow of this, because in verse four, we were chosen in him. We weren't born yet.

We were chosen in Christ because verse six gives us a saving grace, was freely bestowed on us in the beloved. The beloved is Christ. So his grace, even before we were born, was bestowed on us lavishly by the beloved, which is Christ.

Verse seven, in him we have redemption through his blood. Now, blood is death. The forgiveness of sin.

Oh, our sins from start to finish your whole life were forgiven before you were ever born. Verse nine, at the end of the verse, God proposes a purpose are in him. In verse 10, everything is summed up in Christ.

At the end of verse 10 into verse 11, in him we have ordained, obtained an inheritance. In verse 12, we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of his glory in him. You'll receive the truth, the gospel of your salvation.

Verse 13, at the end of verse three, in him you were sealed with the spirit of promise. Everything is in Christ. All right, now let's just stop here.

You have just gone through again that says you have a worldly view and a spiritual view. You live a spiritual life and a physical experience. You are in Christ with all of the blessings that God can bestow on you upon your salvation.

If you're not, you're in the world and you're going to be part of his judgment and everything was determined before the foundation of the world. That's what we've been trying to say these last couple of weeks in our study through Ephesians 1. Having given all of those glorious realities in verse 3 to 14, Paul in verse 15 prays for us to understand that. That's his prayer.

It's to understand what we got from Christ before you were ever born. It's a prayer for us to get a grip on these doctrinal truths that speak of things that we possess in processing all spiritual blessings in the heavenlies in Christ. So let me just remind you of this passage.

For this reason, verse 15, because of all that is ours because we are in him, of all that he is to us, he says, I too having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus Christ which exists among you and your love for all the saints, do not cease giving thanks for you while making mention of you in my prayers. I am thankful for you. This is Paul.

I'm thankful for you. I know you're true believers because of two things. You have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, verse 15, and you have love for the saints.

Those are the two prerequisites of a Christian. Evaluate yourself. If you don't have those two things, you're not a Christian.

You believe in Christ and it manifests itself in love. So I do not cease giving thanks. Paul's saying this so he knows he's talking to a believing church evidenced by their faith in the Lord Jesus and their love for all the saints.

That's exactly what we need to do if we're Christians. But I have a request in verse 16. While I make mention of you in my prayers, and here's my request in verse 17, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and a revelation and a knowledge of him.

Now you already know him in terms of salvation. We've already gone over that. You already know him in terms of understanding the gospel.

We've already gone over that. But I want you to have far more understanding of Christ. This is Paul's request to the church.

I want God to give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation. And of course that spirit is produced in us by the Holy Spirit, who in Isaiah 11 is called the spirit of wisdom. That's where that comes from.

So if you want to know what the spirit of wisdom is, just go back to Isaiah 11 and read the scriptures, because that is where Paul took it from. I want the spirit of God to give you wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him. I want your knowledge of Christ to increase.

I want you to be sanctified. Knowledge is the deep knowledge. It's a specific Greek word for that, so that you spend essentially your entire Christian life getting to know Christ better and better and better.

That's how you get the blessings. It's only in Christ that the blessings are given. You can't go and say, oh, you know what? I was saved and now I want all my blessings.

That's not going to happen, guys. Over in chapter 3 in verse 18, well, let's start in 17. Paul talks about Christ and he prays in verse 17 that Christ may literally settle down and be at home in your heart through faith.

That you, being rooted and grounded in love, and here it comes, may be able to comprehend. Here it is again. This is mental.

This is a mental comprehension, guys. You need to get your minds set up where your minds are associated with your spirit to comprehend with all of the saints what is the breadth. Okay, here's the four dimensions.

The breadth, the length, the height, the depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. He says this is a work of the Holy Spirit, but it is a work of the Holy Spirit as he brings you an understanding of the divine scriptures. While all of the mind of Christ is inside of you in this spirit of his, it's not released.

You have to access it. You've got to manifest it into your life. That's sanctification, guys.

The goal is to be filled with the fullness of God. The way is to love Christ. The way to love Christ is to know him in his fullness, and you can't do that if you're not in the word of God.

Sam? Isn't that part of our reconciliation that we are the new creature, and it's basically the building that you had talked about? Yeah, that's the provision of the Holy Spirit inside of you with the mind of Christ, but that is not the release to your wisdom and knowledge. If you're not into the scriptures and bringing forth what's inside of you into your mind, your physical mind, God's not controlling you. Paul is talking about here as we look at Christ.

Paul is saying, I want the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom and knowledge of him. Why? Because that opens your physical mind up to allow God as sovereign to control you. Okay, thank you.

Papa? So, going back to verse 17 in chapter 1, it says that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him. Now, we don't become sanctified all at once. No, but you have to study to get that.

So, what he's saying is, I want you to study the word of God to work towards total sanctification. So, as we study the word of God, and we try to understand it, he's going to give us wisdom, and as we study more, he's going to give us revelations as we go along, telling us what this stuff means. That is exactly what happens when you study the word of God.

And James tells you this. James says, if you're lacking wisdom or lacking knowledge, just ask. The problem is, is you're not asking if you lack that.

If you don't understand something, and you don't feel you're getting wisdom, James says, ask. Because God says, Christ said, if you ask in my name, that which I have willed to you, it's already provided. And I open the door.

Give it to all men liberally, and upbraideth not. As we journey through the scriptures, we become more and more sanctified. And as we go out, and this world falls apart, and we're going to be the ministers, are we going to be given some kind of power, or is that just the power of what we've learned? The power is already given to you.

We're going to get into that pretty quick. Before we get through tonight, we're going to talk about power. The power has been given to you through the Holy Spirit.

It's already there. The problem that it is, we don't tap it. That's because we don't understand it, because we're still learning how to be sanctified.

That's absolutely right. You're not in the scripture to understand how to release that power. So I've given up 50 years of indoctrination, and starting over from scratch, and it's not easy.

No, it's not. And I'm not chastising you because of that. I'm trying to help you get through it.

I don't feel chastised. I feel helped. Thank you.

You're welcome. I love you properly. You're one of my best buds.

Over in chapter four, even if he's talking now about Christ in verse 12. Then in verse 13, here it goes again, until we all attain to the unity of the faith. What is the unity of the faith? It's a unity of the knowledge of the Son of God.

You need to understand the words here. To a mature man, to be measured the statue which belongs to the fullness of Christ. Okay, we have growing cycles, just like our children.

We are in the spirit growing, just like we raise our children. You're a babe when you get saved. You're a toddler in scripture for a long time until you reach what I would classify as a teenager, but I don't use that word because that's basically a curse in satanic worship.

But you go through this process from a babe to a toddler to a youth, let's just leave it that way, a youth to a mature man. That's your process by scripture. And what Paul is saying in this, until we all attain to the unity of the faith.

And what is the unity of faith? It's a unity of the knowledge of the Son of God to a mature man. It's your growth process. It's your sanctification process.

Okay, he's saying we need to continue to do this studying, this sanctification, this process until you get to a mature, a man of mature mind. Okay, a man of mature mind means that basically you turned over your life to God and he is sovereign. That's the level that you've reached.

So that's Paul's saying here. So in chapter one, we had the fullness of God. We have the fullness of God again in chapter three, in verses 18 and 19.

We have the fullness of God again in chapter four, verse 13, which is equated to being a mature man. It's your growth. It is your expansion.

It's your increase to a mature man's mind. In other words, God's mind is now ruling you, which is equated to knowing Christ. That's how you know Christ.

The Christian life is not complicated to understand. It's just the process. It's all about knowing Christ.

In Colossians chapter one, I would just call a couple of things to your attention here. I'm not going to go do a study here, but we're going to look at a couple of things. Chapter one, verse nine.

Again, here is Paul's prayer. For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding. Same thing.

I want you to have the spirit of wisdom, and I want you to have the revelation of the knowledge in Christ. Paul does this in every church letter. He's telling them, guys, study, study, study, so that the Spirit can reveal his wisdom in your life.

Again, it's the same prayer. It's for us to have deep wisdom and knowledge concerning God, concerning Christ. Then where you have that verse 10 shows what the result is in Colossians 1 10.

This is what verse 10 says. So that, in other words, this is what you're going to get so that you will walk in a manner worthy of God, pleasing him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. That is the foundation of your blessing.

That's the reason why you get the blessings that God gives you on this earth. Even in the process of having the knowledge of God and living in the knowledge of God, increasing in that knowledge of God is still a necessity. You can't say, oh, this is what Joe did.

I'm complacent. You can't say one day I don't need to study anymore. I know it all.

I can't do that. It is a continual growing in grace and the knowledge of God. As Peter says in his epistle, so Paul's prayer again is that we would increase in the knowledge of God, increase in the knowledge of Christ to separate people so that we would walk in a manner worthy of the Lord.

You're trying to please the guy that's giving you. You're taking home. Over in Colossians chapter 2 verse 2, that your hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love.

Oh, think about knit. OK, that's that's the Adams linking together. God, guys, that's that's where we're all connected.

OK, that your hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery. That is Christ himself. That's the mystery in whom all hidden, all are hidden, all treasures.

Of wisdom and now again, the prayer is the same thing. That you would have a full assurance of understanding that you would have a full knowledge of Christ in whom all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are placed. That your blessings while you live this life eternal on this earth.

So the Christian life is not hard to figure out. OK. It's coming to know Christ and know him more and know him more.

You have the apostle Paul in Philippians saying that I may know him, that I may know him. And you might say, Paul, you know him. You preach him.

You love him. You live with him. But I want to know him more and more.

That's what Paul is saying. This is not some wish for some mystical experience. This is for your mind to be able to grasp the fullness of Christ as revealed from heaven for us in what? Scripture.

So when Paul writes to Titus in Titus chapter one, he introduces the letter by saying, Paul, a slave of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth, which is according to godliness. Godliness is connected to the knowledge of the truth. Godliness doesn't happen apart from the knowledge of truth.

OK. Listen to what 1 Peter 1 says, according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with his blood. I don't know how much you give to knowing Christ.

OK, that's something personal that you guys have to deal with. I don't know how much time you spend in reading the four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, to understand what Christ did when he was on the earth or any other of the New Testament books that reveals them. That's why we're studying Ephesians.

I don't know how much time you spend buying books about Christ. There's a lot of books in Christian bookstores these days that are not even about Christ. It's rarely seen to have a book on the shelf that talks about Christ.

What has this world done to the church? Even John, 1 John 2, he's the perpetuation for our sins and not our sins only, but also for those of the whole world. I told you when he died on the cross, he purchased everybody, not just the ones that are called to live with him. He had to purchase everybody so that he had domain over the whole world.

So even all of Satan, Lucifer, Satan, devils, demons, he purchased them because he owns them. He owns them and therefore he can do with them exactly what scripture has said he was going to do. What John says is you can know whether you know him by one simple thing.

If you keep his commandments. Very simple for you guys that are struggling with whether or not you're saved or not, it's pretty easy. Faith in Jesus Christ, love for the saints, obedience and keeping his commandments.

Pretty simple. If there are areas in your life where you're disobedient, your knowledge of him is deficient, it is incomplete. And as you gaze at the glory of the Lord and the knowledge of him becomes yours, Paul says to the Corinthians, you will be changed into his image.

I want you to think about this. We're going to get somewhere with this. Another profound couple of understandings here.

From one level of glory to the next. So this is the changing of spiritual levels from one level up. There are seven levels.

So you're able to ascend the ladder of levels by how much you understand Christ and your sanctification, your obedience. This is what the Christian life is all about. The church exists in the process of sanctification to become like Christ, which happens when you look at Christ and you grow in your knowledge and love and you're better able to reflect him.

What did the scripture say? Be like Christ. Be like, oh, by the way, put on Christ. Another scripture, put on Christ.

We're going to get to that. I don't see this very often in churches. As a matter of fact, I don't see this very often Christians.

But let me give you a little bit of background about the Church of Ephesus. We're Ephesians chapter two, but we're going to back up into Acts 18 first. This was a remarkable church.

Basically, the first to bring the gospel to Ephesus, that pagan city in Asia Minor where Aquila and Priscilla, according to Acts 18, they brought the gospel to there. Now, Aquila and Priscilla were trades people. They owned a tent company.

They built tents. But they were believers. They were then joined by a powerful Old Testament preacher by the name of Apollos.

We get this in Acts as well. He was a Jew from Egypt. And the book of Acts says he was mighty in the scripture and he was zealous and passionate about teaching Christ.

So he joined them. So they had the influence of Aquila and Priscilla, and they had the influence of Apollos. Then came the Apostle Paul.

Now, Paul was in Ephesus for a period of three years after that, to the degree that all of the Asia Minor churches heard the gospel according to Paul. He taught all the churches. So Ephesus, the reason why we're looking at Ephesus is because it was a founding church.

It's from where all other churches sprang out. It is the model church. So the whole province, the whole nation, if you will, heard the gospel because of the power of the preaching of Paul over those three years.

There were miracles wrought by Paul. Remember, the apostles had the ability to do miracles, raise the dead, heal the sick, do whatever they needed to do. There was amazing influence that went on.

The church flourished, grew, then they exploded in growth. And we can read in Acts 19, as the chapter comes to an end, that the pagans were fearful. This is coming out of the pagans mouth.

They were fearful that the gospel was so powerful, so many people were being converted, they were going to literally put paganism out of business in Ephesus. That's how strong that ministry was. Now, it would have been enough for the church to have had the apostle Paul as the pastor for three years, but Paul was followed by Timothy.

And then Timothy was followed by another faithful man named Onesiphorus, who when everybody else was unfaithful to Paul, he was faithful to him. And Onesiphorus was followed by another one of Paul's companions by the name of Tychicus, T-Y-C-H-I-C-U-S. And finally, the church at Ephesus was pastored by none other than the apostle John.

The lineage of this church could not have been more appropriate lineage than what that church had. They were the cornerstone, the foundational church for the entire Asia Minor area. Now, Paul is so concerned that they grow in their knowledge of Christ, even after all this lineage, after all this stuff, after all the stuff of the church or whatever.

He commends them for being true believers based on their faith and the knowledge of Christ. He commends them based upon the faith in the Lord, saving faith in their love. But he obviously is concerned about their spiritual growth in understanding Christ.

And that's why he prays for it again in chapter 3, verse 14 and following, that they would grow in their understanding of Christ. This is his passion. Why? Well, pretty simple.

It's amazing how fast churches move away from Christ. It's amazing how fast churches move away from Christ. Think about yourself.

Think about your own salvation. You were all hyped up, zealous, filled with, you know, vinegar, whatever you want to call it. You were filled with the Holy Spirit.

And all you wanted to do when you first saved is you just wanted to get out. You just, hyperness, you were on overdrive. Well, when you weren't growing in your knowledge of Christ, that burnt out pretty quickly.

And then what happened? You went back to your old ways. So when we look at Revelation chapter 2, we find that a couple of decades after Paul wrote the letter to Ephesus, Christ wrote the letter to him. We studied that in Revelation 2. And he gave him all of this accommodation.

And then he says, oh, by the way, I have a problem. And your problem is that you lost your first love. Now, how can that happen? You got this entire lineage of all of these powerful preachers.

You got the church that basically, they love the Lord and they love the saint. But they're not, they don't have a relationship with Christ. They have lost their first love.

They forgot who he was. They got into a ritualistic process. This is a church committed on every possible level.

But what Christ tells him is you've lost your first love. So in verse 5 in Revelations 2.5, he says, do this. Remember, remember what? Your past.

Remember how you got here. And then he says, repent and repeat. You've left your first love, your love for the Lord.

Remember the early days when you were saved as you look upon this. This is such a concern to the Epistle of Paul, and it should be to any spiritual leader in any setting. You can go to 2 Corinthians chapter 11, and Paul is burdened deeply here as well.

We'll pick it up in verse 2 of 2 Corinthians 11, writing to the church of Corinth. I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy, for I betrothed you. This is the church marrying Christ.

I gave you to Christ, the husband, so that Christ might, so that I might present you as what? As a pure virgin. Not in the sexual context, but in the spiritual context. But I'm afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

How could that happen? These churches who started, they flourish, they whatever, and they get complacent. Oh, that's the word, complacent, and they go downhill. They've quit studying.

They quit doing what they need to do to continue to be sanctified. Well, in verse 4, he says this. If someone comes and preaches another Jesus whom we haven't preached, or you receive a different spirit other than the Holy Spirit, which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear this beautifully.

Oh my gosh. What he's saying is, is you're accepting everything in the world without any discernment. You just let it come in.

Think about your lives. Think about your lives. How sad.

You bear this beautifully. Yeah, that's what the Greek word means. You don't seem to have a problem with it at all.

This is a form of traitorship. You become a traitor to the gospel. You become a traitor to Christ.

Why a traitor? Because he gave his life for you. He gave your ticket to heaven. You need to be loyal to that if you want his blessings, and if you're not, then you are a traitor.

Proverbs 26 says, Many a man claims his own loyalty, but who can find a trustworthy man? Proverbs 21 21. He who pursues righteousness and loyalty finds life, righteousness, and honor, but loyal people are hard to find. When you came to Christ, he's saying you confess Jesus as Lord.

That's what was required for salvation. You basically denied yourself, took up your cross, and followed him, and now I'm afraid, I'm afraid that you have shown a tendency to be distracted to another Jesus, another idol, somebody's invention, part biblically and part not biblically. However you want to do this, guys, you've lost your loyalty to Christ.

No other loves are acceptable. You cannot be obedient to God and love this world. This can't happen.

He doesn't say you can ride the fence. Philippians 1 21. I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ lives in me, a life which I live.

I live by faith in the Son of God. What Paul is saying is you got to let Christ control your life. The enemy always is trying to deceive the church, deceive believers to leave the preeminence of the loving Christ for something else, personal, social, political, whatever, and you bear this beautifully.

You enjoy the process. You like how it feels or what you look like in it or whatever. How could they possibly do this? When Paul writes to the Colossians, he says, set your affections on things above and not on things of the earth.

Set your affection where Christ is. This loyalty to Christ is so easy in spite of the great history of the things in church, sound doctrine, loyalty to the things that were necessary good works. By the time you get to the book of Revelation at the end of the first century, they had lost their first love.

So where we're kicking off tonight is, and I want to run through this quickly. I want to hold you over for a few minutes. I want to call us the church of Jesus Christ back to that first love.

That's what we have to do in order to meet Ephesians chapter one. And that's what Ephesians one will help us do. We could spend, we could absolutely spend months in this first chapter, literally.

I'm trying to boil it down to just a handful of lessons to give you overviews and allow you to run off and study it on your own. But I just want to give you the passage in sort of an overview sense here. Because I need to get these three things out.

We are to focus on Christ. And we're to focus on Christ in these three dimensions. The greatest of his plan is the first dimension, the greatness of his plan.

The greatness of his plan. For that one, you look at verse 18. This is so comprehensive, guys.

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened. Again, we're talking about understanding knowledge, wisdom, revelation, thinking the mind. The eyes of your heart may be enlightened so that you will know what is the hope of his calling.

What is the riches of his glory of his inheritance in the saints? Now, we could go in every detail of that scripture and spend weeks in just that one scripture. But I just want to give you the big picture. I want you to understand your calling.

What's that? Your calling is the call of God that occurred in eternity past. Your calling, your divine calling, the effectual calling is often referred to. Go back to verse 4. That calling occurred because God chose us in him before the foundation of the world.

That was our calling. That calling occurred because he predestined us to adoption as sons in verse 11. We've attained an inheritance having been predestined according to his purpose who works all things after the counsel of his will to that end.

The result that we were who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of his glory. What do you mean here, Paul? What would be taken all the way to eternal glory? Verse 14 calls the redemption of God's own possession to the praise of glory. Okay, so what Paul is saying here is in verse 18, which is a summarization.

After he says his prayer, he's trying to identify to the people what that prayer meant. I want you to understand everything about your calling, your being chosen, your predestination, your calling, your redemption, your sanctification, your glory. I want you to know all of that in detail, and you can't do it if you don't know Christ because he's the one that's providing it.

Now look at the sweeping reality of verse 18. I want you to understand the doctrine of election. I people say if you believe in predestination, it'll make you lazy, it'll make you indifferent.

If you really understand the doctrine of predestination, it's going to make you thankful because that's how you were elected to go back home, by the way. And then it's going to make you holy because now you're going to understand how you can be sanctified in Christ and all the blessings. And then it's going to make you joyful, why? Because you're going to get a good life, and then it will fill your life with security.

You need to understand that you were chosen, that you were predestined, called to eternal glory. It began with the choice and the calling, and it ends with the riches of his glory and his inheritance in the saints. The very inheritance of Christ is with the saints.

We've already talked about this. He and us and we and him, we're joint heirs with him. We get all of the blessings that God has bestowed on him in this physical life.

Now, we don't get our glorified body and all that stuff in this video, but we experience all of his blessings while we're on earth. It starts here. It's in union with the saints that Christ receives his inheritance and we receive it with him.

Think about it. Before time began, God chose you. He predestined you to eternal glory.

Called you in time. In other words, he already knew when to call you after you were born. So, he knew when you were going to be born.

He knew when to call you, and he knows your death date. And it's going to take place because in verse 13 it says you were sealed. When were you sealed? You were sealed before the foundation of the world.

Everything happens in the spiritual world before it happens in the physical world. So, when he called you in this physical world and you accepted that calling and got justification and redemption, all he did was transfer the seal to you. He already knew it was going to happen, so he just transferred it.

The Holy Spirit is Christ's guarantee and the Holy Spirit is promise. We went through all of this previously in the other one. So, when you're focusing on Christ, focus on that which is eternal.

Live in the Spirit, not in the physical world. You have to fly over life in this world. You have to go from eternity past to eternity future during this physical life experience, but you just need to go over it.

Think on that. Set your affections on things above and not things on the earth. It's not going to get any better.

You can't fix it. Let's set our affections in the heavenlies. We live whatever happens in the world around us.

We are just a vapor that appears for a little time and vanishes away. This is a very short time period in all of eternity, and while we're here, we need to set our affections on things above. Contemplate the greatness of the doctrine of election.

The doctrine is so powerful and so important. So, you might say, how am I protected in all this? Because Christ is your protector. You say, well, okay, he has a plan.

We just got over his plan, and he's my protector. Does he have the power to protect me? Look at verse 19. So, we want to know if we're going to have that glorious inheritance in the future and that our protector is able.

So, he says this, I want your heart. This is Paul talking. I want your heart, the eyes of your heart, to be enlightened regarding what is the surprising greatness of his power towards us who believe.

You not only understand the greatness of his plan, but you understand the greatness of his power in accordance with the working of the strength of his mind. Now, there are four words in that verse that describe his power. It's the word power.

It's the word working. It's the word strength and the word might. He has the power.

He has the energy, which is working. He has the strength, and he has a mind. This is all good news to us.

He not only has a plan. We got that in verse 3 to 14. He has the power to execute that plan.

How do we know that it can come to pass? And the answer of that is in verse 20. He says this, God put all of his power on display in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at the right hand in the heavenly places. If he did it for Christ, he can do it for you.

The resurrection of Christ and the ascension of Christ demonstrates the power of God to bring you through death out of the other side into his presence, even as he did for his own below son. He has a plan, and he has the power to execute that plan. Well, the next question that we need to ask ourselves is, can somebody come along and disrupt the plan? Can Satan come along and stop the plan? Well, we get now, let's look at verse 21.

Because Christ is far above, notice that far above all rule and authority, and power, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come. So for now, and as long as time exists, even into the millennium kingdom come, he far exceeds all rule, all authority, all power, all dominion possessed by any persons. That's what it means.

There is no person who has the power, and there's no person, secondly, who has the authority to usurp his authority. All persons are subject to him now and into the future, verse 22. All things are subject to him.

He puts all things in subjection underneath his feet. We're going to get into that. There's a good video that Trey Smith put out.

If you guys didn't see it, it's called Underneath Golgotha. You probably ought to see it, because it talks about the mercy seat and the defining of the mercy seat in Scripture, and it gets into this. There is no person, there is no thing.

Sounds like Roman 8. What's going to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus? And Paul lays out a litany of things. There's no one, no person, no thing that can come between us and God. He has a plan.

He has the power to execute that plan, and he is the person who is the absolute sovereign that is summed up in verse 22 of chapter 1. He has put all things under his feet and gave him as a head over all things. Oh, he just became the sovereign God really quick. That's amazing, guys.

Another way to say this is he gave them a name above all names, which is the name of the Lord. You find that elsewhere in Scripture. So he has a plan, he has the power, and he has the position.

Let me just give you this, because isn't it amazing that one who is the head over all things, think about that, God gave to the church as the head. He didn't give us angels, and he didn't give us godly men. He gave us the head of the universe as the head of the church, and we are his body, and as his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is amazing, guys. This is overwhelming. Now, I want you to think about this.

He lives in us. The one who has the universal, eternal, redemptive plan has the power to execute that plan and is the person superior to all other persons and all other things. The one who is the head over all things, ruler over everything, is the ruler of his church, and not only does he rule his church, but he lives in his church.

We are his body, and he fills us with his fullness. Okay, guys, here's another theological moment. Scripture tells us to be like Christ.

Scripture tells us to put on Christ. Scripture tells us that we are the body of Christ. Do you get it? This body that we're walking around in this physical earth is made in the likeness of Christ, the Son of Man, and he lives in that body just like he lived in the body as the Son of God, the Lamb of God, when he walked the earth.

Your body, while it is satanic made, is made for God's purpose. You house the Spirit of Jesus Christ. Therefore, your body is the temple of God.

That's why you need to put on Christ, because as you put on Christ, the evil side of this physical world that our body was made in goes away, and we become just like Enoch and Elijah. We're no more mortal man. All right, we're done.

Questions? Comments? We end chapter one tonight. We're going to get into chapter two, which is basically the implementation of his plan. We spent several weeks there, by the way.

Sorry. I think I missed something, at least in points to retain from my notes. The first one, the greatness of his plan.

You said there were three points. Greatness of his power. Power, that's what I thought.

And greatness of his person, his position of authority as sovereign God. I got the points on those. I just didn't write them down, so thank you.

What do you guys think? You're getting to know Christ in a much different way. Anybody want to say anything? Sam, go ahead. It's just amazing how much our spiritual growth has changed since we started doing this.

I know speaking for myself and helping others along has been wonderful. That's all Christ doing it. I'm glad he's getting through to you guys, through this worldly vessel.

Robert? Yeah, Jim, I was just thinking, if we are Christ, we are the body of Christ, all of us as a group, as angels. I always want to try to get the experience, so should we just kind of feel like the presence of God and feel that presence experientially? Do you think that's a direction to go in? You mean, you as an individual? As an individual, feel that presence as much as I possibly can. Rather than the words, just the presence, the experience of that.

That's what I'm trying to achieve. That's your knowledge in Christ. That is basically how you grow.

You take the scriptures and you begin to apply it to your life. You're increasing your wisdom and knowledge. And as you do that, it's like a magnet.

When you do it on this side of your physical side, you're magnetizing that which is in the Spirit. Basically, they collide, and that collision becomes an area, as Billy Ruth put it, an area we just turned over to God. It's now His.

That's what I'm working at. Anyway, all right. Good class.

Great classroom. Yeah. Now, think about this, guys.

We're all connected. We're all one, okay? But we're one in the Spirit. We're not one in the physical.

So, your spirit is what is connected to all other spirits. Your physical body is not connected. Okay? Anything else, guys? Jim? Yes, ma'am? Going off what Robert said, it is the presence of God that transforms you.

That's transforming. And until, I mean, we study, study, study. But until that knowledge, there's a difference between head knowledge and heart knowledge.

And until the knowledge is transferred from our head to our heart, it's not transforming. And the presence of God does that. You're absolutely correct.

But I would make one change. And that the reason why you need to be sanctified is to allow the heart knowledge to become physical knowledge. Yes.

Yeah. Not the other way around. So, your God doesn't, God doesn't compete.

God doesn't live in your physical mind. That's your ego system. God lives in your heart.

So, what he asks us to do is study to show ourself approved and study to increase your wisdom and revelation of knowledge in him, which is your physical mind that connects now, because you're doing that, to your heart mind with the understanding. And it allows your heart mind to now take over control of the physical mind that we're talking about. So, it is the presence of God that does that.

Yes. Yeah. Exactly.

We've got to get the knowledge that's coming into us, into the spirit, you know. Okay. So, another way of doing this is releasing the spiritual knowledge.

Okay. So, from a physical side, when you now know what that knowledge is, you now want the spiritual knowledge of that to be released. Because God says, I wrote all my laws and my scriptures in your heart.

So, everything is there. Yes. We're filled with the spirit.

It's got to get out. And the only way to get out is to increase your wisdom, your physical brain wisdom and knowledge, revelation of Christ, which opens up then your heart and allows your heart, the sovereignty of God, to take over control of that part of your life. That's why it's good to pray first or to ask first before we study.

Yeah, you pray for wisdom, pray that God will reveal himself. Okay. You just can't go into scripture and not ask God what he wants to reveal to you, because he's not going to reveal everything at once.

Okay. He's going to reveal the level in which you're at, and then he's going to grow with you. He's going to grow your wisdom and knowledge of him.

That's the reason why the scripture tells us that we're babes, we're infants, we're young adults, and then we're mature men. That's the reason why we grow through that. So, you grow your wisdom and knowledge and revelation in him, just like you would teach your child.

Yes, and the Holy Spirit is our teacher, so we have to invite him when we're studying. Yeah, yeah. Thank you.

Thank you, Jim. Great explanation. Thank you.

All good points. All right, guys, anything else? All right, so let's pray. Let's get on with this.

Father, thank you for this evening. Thank you again for your amazing patience, especially with me and dealing with my levels of frustration in the last several days and weeks. I appreciate you just holding my hand through the process and showing me, you know, the way, just like you're supposed to, showing me the way back to your knowledge and grace that will give me the joy, peace and joy of life.

And Father, I want to offer the same thing to this group. Open the hearts and minds to everyone with regards to understanding your scripture. May you provide them the wisdom and the revelation of their individual knowledge in you and in Christ.

May you also then take that and show us how to apply it to our individual lives so that basically we can continue to grow in all of this spiritual wisdom and revelation through your word and become more and more sanctified in our walk with you. We want to thank you for giving us this opportunity not only to study word but of life itself. We want to thank you for giving us eternity.

I want to thank you for having chosen us to be able to come back home and live with you for all of eternity. I'm going to ask all these starting in the second book of Acts. So let me get this off.