

I. Petitioned - Eph. 3:14-15

1. Picks up the prayer he began at 3:1 - and goes forward here
2. For this reason (**verse 14**)
 - since God strengthened Jew and Gentile together Paul prayed for that work
- Rea -since he was God's man to work with Gentiles, he so prays
3. I kneel - another posture for prayer
 - usually they stood as they prayed
4. Before the Father
 - Rea -not just the Father, but the Father of both Jew and Gentile (**verse 15**)
 - Rea -once again to emphasize the work that crossed ethnic barriers
- Rea 5. He is sovereign
 - over Jew and Gentile
 - over all creation
 - for all time
 - across all dispensations - both Old Testament and New Testament
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. Obviously prayer was important to Paul - he prayed all the time and in every circumstance
 2. Aware of his place, and responsibility he must have felt the need to pray - do you have such times?
 3. Realizing the need - as so very great, he asks for God's help

II. Indwelled - Eph. 3:16-19

1. Prays they be strengthened with power (**verse 16**)
 - A. Where - in your inner being
- Rea -the inside man is what matters most
- B. How - through the Holy Spirit
- Rea C. Obviously, Paul realized what they needed - also the same need that we have in 2019
- D. How, - out of His glorious riches
- Rea -God's treasure house - storehouse
2. That He may dwell in your hearts through faith (**verse 17**)
 - A. Christ' continual presence
- Rea B. His presence is enough in every circumstance
- C. The result of his indwelling is that they be...
 - 1) rooted
 - 2) established in love
- Rea D. The end result is a "rooted" life
 - firm
 - solid
 - immovable
3. That they may have power together (verse 18) to grasp the truth of His love
 - wide and deep
- Rea -a realization they needed since they were merging Gentiles and Jews

- Rea 4. Rooted in love (17)
 -realizing the depth of love (18)
 -love that surpasses knowledge (19)
 -it's all about love
5. Prayer that they may realize a certain type of love (**verse 19**)
 A. One that surpasses knowledge
 B. Peace also, may be beyond understanding
 C. The idea there are things beyond our understanding... beyond our minds grasp
- Rea 6. Almost as a crescendo he adds - filled to the measure of the fullness of God
 -wow - now, that's full!
 -consistent with the teaching in Ephesians 5 that we be filled with the Holy Spirit
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. Compare Paul's prayer to ours
 -we pray about sicknesses, Paul prays about the fullness of God - hmmm
 2. Are you "rooted" in love, in the faith, etc?
 3. Discuss this type of love, versus other types

III. Honored - Eph. 3:20-21

1. Praises God's ability to do above all we think
 Rea -He can do beyond whatever we pray - He is not limited by what we ask for
2. Beyond
 -what we think
 -what we imagine
 Rea -beyond our very thought process
3. "Immeasurably" beyond - not just beyond
4. How - "according to His power"
 -where does that work "in us"
 Rea -so why don't we see more from Him?
5. Prays for God's glory - more than anything
 -glory where - "in the church"
 Rea -God gets glory in the created order - nature, He should get glory in and from us
6. How does the church bring glory to God?
 A. Magnifies the grace of God on the cross
 B. Shows forth the reality of changed persons
 C. People ought be able to see the work of God at church...
 Rea -in the same way they see the work of God in nature
 Rea D. When Jews and Gentiles get along, it must be the hand of God
7. For how long? - across the generations
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. The greatest witness to God/ Jesus is a changed life - fruit/ by-product
 2. The worst witness to God is a broken/ split church
 -unity brings glory to God
 3. In all we do, His honor is at stake
 -in the words I speak
 -in my attitudes
 -in what I post on Facebook

- in what I spend my time on
4. If the glorious/ all-powerful presence of Jesus Christ dwells in us... there ought be something to show for it

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