

The Church: The Body of Christ Living in the Fullness of His Power

(Ephesians 1:15 – 23)

...but the people who know their God shall stand firm and take action. (Daniel 11:32 ESV)

"A little knowledge of God is worth more than a great deal of knowledge about Him."

(J.I. Packer, Knowing God, p. 22)

Purpose of this Sermon:

- That we would see nothing more important than knowing Christ better (vs. 15 - 17).
- That we would learn how to pray for one another to know Christ better (vs. 18 - 23).

Outline:

i. God's Provision in knowing Him better: The Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation (vs. 17)

- Greek word (epignosis) - *a deep, full, intimate knowledge.*

ii. Our Reception for knowing Him better: Enlightened Eyes to See (vs. 18)

- the hope of His calling (vs. 18)

- the riches of His inheritance (vs. 18)

- the power of His might (vs. 19)

iii. Jesus Christ: The Fullness of God (vs. 20 - 23)

- head over everything for the Church (vs. 22)

Questions for Reflection:

Why is it essential for us to learn how to pray such 'capacity' prayers as Paul teaches us in this passage and in Ch. 3:14 - 21? How does this kind of praying compare to yours?

Why does Paul link such an exalted description of Christ in vs. 20 - 23 to his prayer in verses 17 - 19? What does the metaphor of the head and the body teach us? (vs. 22)



Personal Study Notes

Ephesians 1:15-23

Key Verse: Eph. 1:17

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.

Insights Gained:

Prayer for Spiritual Insight (vs. 15-19)

God's Power in Christ (vs. 20-23)

Questions or Insights for Discussion:

- 1)
- 2)

