



8/14/26

Ephesians 3:14-21

On this week's episode of Chosen and Cherished, we talked about the beautiful feet that bring the good news of the gospel. The more I grow in Christ, the more I see that the gospel is not just good news for salvation. The gospel is good news for every single day of our lives! If you'd like to listen to the podcast, here's the link... <https://summitpoint.org/chosen-and-cherished/>

*Blessings,
Jonna*

This is the last message on storming the throne in prayer. This last focus is on storming the throne for the church. I find it very interesting that this is the passage chosen for the church because, for so many years, I looked at it as just for me individually. But Paul is praying collectively for the whole church, the body of Christ, because we ALL need the truth of this passage. So what is so important that Paul wanted to pray this for the church???

Vs. 14-15 ~ "For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named..."

Paul starts by saying he has a reason that he's praying, but before he jumps into his reason, he wants to make it clear to WHOM he's praying and why. He's praying TO THE FATHER. First, I wonder if it ever stopped amazing him that he could pray to "the Father." He was Jewish... he has been a Pharisee... he knew the Old Testament law like the back of his hand. They didn't speak so personally about God in the Old Testament. Out of reverence, they wouldn't even utter His personal name, Yahweh. They didn't even write His name with vowels! It was YHWH. What must it have been like for him to be able to refer to God as FATHER? Abba? Dad?

O Abba, please help me never to take it for granted who I'm praying to!!! You are the Father, "from whom EVERY family in heaven and on earth is named." You are the source of ALL life. To pray to You is to pray to the highest authority. Paul knew that. I know that. And yet I can so

easily take it for granted or forget how huge You are.

Vs. 16 ~ For this reason Paul prayed to the Father, "that according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being..."

Paul prayed that the Father would strengthen us with power through His Spirit who dwells in the people of "the Church, the body of Christ." It is through the Spirit that we have this power. That's why it's so important that WE as a church, not just the local church but the whole universal church, don't quench the Spirit's work in our individual lives. We NEED His power.

How much power do we need to grasp what Paul's about to pray for? We need the power that aligns with the riches of His glory! How much glory does He have? Well... He SPOKE the world into existence. The HEAVENS declare His glory. Jesus said in Luke 19:40 that if we won't praise His name the rocks and stones will cry out! The earth is filled with His glory (even if the world wants to deny it). Jesus is the radiance of the glory of God, so glorious that He holds the universe together by the WORD of His power. With THAT power, He strengthens us through His Spirit. For what???

Vs. 17-19 ~ "so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith..." It is only by God's power that Jesus can dwell in our hearts through faith. I used to see lots of signs that say, "Believe." But believe in what? Now that message has morphed to, "Believe in yourself." Yikes!!! If that's all I've got, to believe in myself... I'm in big trouble! Do I have power anything like Jesus? Can I hold the universe together with my word??? Do the heavens declare my glory??? Anyone who embraces that lie of believing in themselves will find at some point that it doesn't work. Sadly, so many will think they just need to try harder. But the belief we need is only found in one place... JESUS! We need Jesus to DWELL, to settle, to live in our hearts. We need Him to be the head of our house... the house of our hearts, with Him in charge of our feelings, emotions, motives, and choices. That takes POWER from the Holy Spirit. If I don't, by faith, bow to Jesus as Lord through the power of the Holy Spirit, my feelings, emotions, motives, and choices will gravitate toward lies!!! But praise God! The one who holds the universe together by the word of His power uses that power to strengthen me!!! And all His church! Why???

"that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

Ohhhh... there's so much here. Let me not miss this. I will NOT comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of God's love without the power of the Holy Spirit working in me AND all the saints! All the believers in Christ. When we quench the power of the Spirit working in our lives by turning to our selfish feelings, desires, emotions, and choices, we quench our comprehension of God's love for us!!! O Lord, help us not to quench the Spirit!!!

God not only wants us to comprehend His love, which also means "to seize, to grasp, to take

hold of", He also wants us to KNOW His love. That's a different Greek word that means He wants us to know His love through personal experience. That comes by the power of the Holy Spirit working in our lives!

I need to comprehend, take hold of, and seize something here. The word of God is called "the sword of the... SPIRIT." One way I quench the Spirit's work in my life is by ignoring or being too busy for... His word.

John Piper illustrates how the Holy Spirit uses the word to strengthen us with power with a car racing through mud. As the mud splashes up on the windshield of the car so that the driver can't see where he's going, the word is the wiper fluid and the Spirit is the wipers. If we only have the word splashing onto our windshield, the mud is still in our way even as it slowly drips down the windshield. It is the Holy Spirit who wipes away the mud using the wiper fluid of the word to clear the windshield so that we can see. See what? His incredible LOVE! He wants us to take hold of it AND to experience KNOWING His love that is BEYOND KNOWING. Why? So that we can be FILLED WITH THE FULLNESS OF GOD.

So... by prayer, Paul asked that the Spirit would strengthen each of the believers, so that we could comprehend and know the love of God that surpasses knowledge and be filled with all His fullness. When I quench the Spirit by choosing my feelings over His word and by walking according to my flesh rather than according to the leading of the Spirit... I begin to think that God's love for me is NOT KNOWABLE, rather than that it's so great that it SURPASSES KNOWLEDGE. I fill myself with SELF so that there's not a whole lot of room to be filled with Him.

But... I need His power. So Lord, please help me AND ALL YOUR PEOPLE to keep coming to You, to be filled up with Your goodness, love, mercy, compassion, comfort, strength, wisdom... all Your fullness because of Your devoted, sacrificial, unconditional, undying love. You don't reserve Your love only for some. It is for all.

Vs. 20-21 ~ "Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

Now to Him... the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit... who is able... who has the power like no one else... to do far more abundantly than ALL that we ask and ALL that we can even imagine... O Lord, You WANT to pour out Your blessing on us. Please help us not to quench Your Spirit so that we miss out on all that You're able to do.

Now to You be glory IN THE CHURCH... the same glory that is declared in the heavens is what You want to declare in Your Church! And in Christ Jesus who is the head of Your Church! I know Jesus doesn't stand in Your way. Please help us not to stand in Your way. Your glory is throughout all generations forever and ever! Please help that to be our perspective! Please strengthen us to comprehend and know how incredible You are! O Lord, let revival come to Your

Church and let Your Church grow. We want to see heaven crowded. Praise Your name!