

The Power of the Resurrection
Ephesians 1:15-23
Easter 2024

Introduction

- **HE IS RISE...**
- This morning Brian read for us the **historical account of the Resurrection** as recorded by **Matthew**.
- **Some 2,000** years ago this event marked the beginning of what would become the greatest movement in Human History.
- But it was **much more** than a human movement.
- Along with his crucifixion, the **Resurrection of Jesus Christ** was THE act of **God's mighty power** that has **impacted humanity** like nothing else ever could.
- And it's the **Power of the Resurrection** that we're going to focus on **this Easter Sunday**.

- And to help us **see why this power is so important**, I want to begin with an illustration.
- Suppose there's someone who's been captured by an **evil power** and forced **into slavery**.
- And what they need more than anything else is someone to **rescue** them, **they need a savior**.
- But undertaking their rescue will be extremely **dangerous**.
- Their captor is **well prepared** and **well-armed**.
- Any attempt **at rescue** could **mean death** for the **would-be savior**.

- So, not just **any savior** will do.
- He needs **two very important qualities**.
- **First**, he must be **highly motivated**.
- Willing to risk or even **give his life** for the one **who's captured**.
- And **second**, he must **have the ability** to pull off the rescue.
- He needs to have **the resources and training to defeat the evil power** and **save the captive**.

- Now this situation **may sound familiar to some**.
- It's the plot of the Movie "**Taken**" starring **Liam Neeson**.
- In the movie **Liam's daughter** is **taken** by an **evil power** who plans to sell her into **slavery**.
- And, because of **Liam's great love for her**, he is **highly motivated** to attempt her rescue.

- Now **most fathers** can understand this.
- **As fathers** we would be **highly motivated** by **love for our daughters**.
- But most fathers don't have the **ability to pull off the rescue**.
- Most fathers don't have the **resources and training** to deal with **evil powers**.

- But **Liam** isn't just any father, he's not only motivated, but he's equipped to save his daughter.
- Warning the captors, he says...***I have a very particular set of skills***.
- ***Skills I have acquired over a very long career***.
- ***Skills that make me a nightmare for people like you***.

- And of course, the captors don't listen to his warning, **and they pay with their lives**.
- **Spoiler alert**, Liam successfully rescues his daughter.
- **Why**, because he's both **Highly Motivated by Love**, and **Highly Qualified**.
- In this situation, **He has the Power to Save**.

- Now as I **began describing the plot** from **Taken** some of you might have thought I was referring to something else.
- That I had another Savior in mind.
- That I wasn't talking about a **fictional movie Savior**.
- But I was alluding to THE Savior, Our Savior, Jesus Christ, who motivated by love, rescued us from our slavery to sin.
- And to be honest, I wanted you to think that.
- But before **we apply this scenario** to Jesus, **we need to adjust the plot slightly**.
- In the **movie Taken**, Liam's daughter is captured **against her will and forced into slavery**.
- But we, on the **other hand**, prior to **our salvation**, willingly **serve our captor**.
- We see this in **Romans 6** where Paul writes...

6 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? (Romans 6:16)

- Prior to our salvation **we presented ourselves as obedient slaves to SIN**.
- **In fact**, you could say we **willingly cooperated** with the **evil power that enslaved us**.
- Now **Liam Neeson produced 3 Taken Movies**, not sure of all the plots (only saw the first one)
- But if they were to make a **Taken 4** based on **who we were prior to salvation**.
- Instead of **Liam** rescuing a **family member or friend**, he would be rescuing one of the villain's evil henchmen.
- And that **makes our rescue**, and **Christ's love**, even more amazing.
- When Christ came to save us, **we were not loving sons and daughters**.
- We were in **rebellion against God**, we were **willingly serving** our captor **sin**.
- **But God, But Jesus Christ** as we saw last week, was still motivated by love to save us.
- Paul writes in **Romans 5:8**...

8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

- Despite our **rebellion against him**, the LOVE of Christ drove **him to the cross**.
- And along the way **he was betrayed, denied, mocked beaten and spit upon**.
- And then **He died one of the most torturous horrible deaths ever conceived by man**.
- But he not **only died physically**, He took our sin upon himself.
- Every evil deed was laid upon Christ.
- And then he received the righteous wrath of God for our Sins.
- Christ's love motivated Him to become a sacrifice for our sins.
- **To die that we might live!**
- So, the cross **clearly proclaims** the **amazing LOVE** that motivated Christ to become our savior.
- But what about **His ability**...
- Did Jesus have the power, the resources to deal with the enemy and pull off the rescue.
- Put simply Did/Does Christ Death on the Cross **have the Power to Save Us**.

- **And that brings us to the resurrection.**
- It's the resurrection of Jesus Christ that answers this question.
- The resurrection reveals the **Power of God (in Christ) to Save us from Our Sins.**
- We see this **implied** in **1 Corinthians 15:14**, Paul writes...

14 And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. (1 Corinthians 15:14)

- It's **the power of the resurrection** that confirms our message and our faith.
- If there's no resurrection, then Jesus was just another misguided/mistaken religious teacher.
- The crucifixion had no impact and Jesus remains dead.
- The gospel (the good news) of Jesus Christ and our faith in Jesus Christ is vanity.
- **In short, if there is no resurrection then there is no power to save.**
- But if the resurrection is true (and it is) then **the opposite is true.**
- Jesus rose to never die again.
- **Jesus is ALIVE TODAY.**
- The **Resurrection** means that **Jesus Lives!!!**
- And therefore, he does have **the power to SAVE...**
- The **gospel is truly good new**, and **our faith is sure.**
- Now today I am not going to go into **the abundant evidence for the resurrection**,
- We've done on past Easter Sunday's, and we will certainly do it again.
- If you're **skeptical**, I would love to talk to you.
- I can point you **to great resources** that give, what in the minds of many, overwhelming historical and logical evidence to **the fact of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.**
- But today I want us to look not at the **Proof of the Resurrection**
- but again, **The Power of the Resurrection.**
- And not just how the **resurrection reveals God's Power to Save.**
- But also, how God's power as seen in the **resurrection transforms us** to live **out our salvation.**
- And we're going to **see this** by looking **at a prayer...**

1. The Prayer to Know Resurrection Power

- This prayer is found in **Ephesians 1:15-23**, that's our text for today.
- After telling the church of **the many spiritual blessing** they have in Christ. Paul writes...

15 For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, (Ephesians 1:15-16)

- Paul is praying for those who've put their faith in the **Lord Jesus Christ...**
- And here's what he prays...

17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, (Ephesians 1:17-18)

- There's a lot to this prayer, and we will touch on some of it.
- But today we'll focus on what follows...**Paul prays that Christians would know...**

19 ...what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. (Ephesians 1:19-23)

- The heart of Paul's prayer is that the **Christians in Ephesus** would know the **immeasurable greatness of God's power towards them.**
- And it's my prayer that TODAY, as we examine God's word, we too would know **the immeasurable greatness of God's power towards us.**
- And knowing here is not just **head knowledge**, it includes **understanding** and **experiencing.**
- It's my prayer that...
- We would know God's resurrection power that we might **experience relationship with God...**
- **that we might experience victory over our sin.**
- that we might **experience obedience to his will and word.**
- that we might **experience love for God and people.**
- that we might **experience being his witnesses to the world**
- It's my prayer that we would **experience the power of his presence** in every **need**,
- in every **sorrow** in every **difficult situation.**
- That we would know **God's resurrection power** in every **area of our lives.**
- Again, the resurrection of **Jesus Christ** means that **He lives.**
- **Jesus Christ**, unlike every other religious leader or teacher who's come and gone.
- Who have lived and died, **Christ alone rose from the dead...His tomb is Empty.**
- Therefore, we don't just follow the teachings of some long-gone religious gu-ru.
- We worship and serve **and are empowered by** the LIVING Lord of Glory.
- And this is the point.
- It is because Christ is alive that we can experience **His Power in our lives.**
- As the **Hymn** so rightly declares...

**Because He lives, I can face tomorrow
Because He lives, all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living, just because He lives**

- Knowing that Jesus rose from that dead and that he lives today.
- Should, must empower us to **experience the Victorious Christian LIFE.**
- But is that what you're **consistently experiencing?**
- Are you consistently **walking with Christ?**
- Are you **living for Christ?**
- Are you **seeking to glorify Christ?**
- Are you **overcoming sin, are you living in obedience to God?**

- Is your life characterized by a deep love for both God and People?
- Are you **sharing the love of Christ** (the gospel) with those who need it so desperately?
- **Bottom line**, are you experiencing the *immeasurable greatness of God's power toward You?*
- My guess is most of us would answer these questions with, **sometimes or not so much.**
- **Oh, I have my moments.**
- But to say that I consistently experience *the immeasurable greatness of God's resurrection power* in my life,
- **That would be a stretch.**
- But take courage and **have hope in this,**
- apparently, it was a stretch for the **Christians in Ephesus** as well.
- But **Paul believed that prayer could effect change in their lives.**
- That's why **he prayed** that they know the immeasurable greatness of God's Power toward them.
- And **My prayer** and the point of this message is for us to grow in our knowledge, understanding and experience of *the immeasurable greatness of God's Power toward Us.*
- The same power *that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead.*
- The same power we celebrate this and **every resurrection Sunday**
- Now to experience this resurrection power, we need to first understand that there are reasons why we don't.
- This immeasurable power is toward us, it is available to us.
- But if we're not experiencing it, we need to understand why.
- **We need to see...**

2. The Problem of Knowing Resurrection Power

- And I believe Paul's prayer reveals our problem.
- **Beginning in verse 17 He prays...**

17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened... (Ephesians 1:17-18)

- Notice that this prayer is very different from what we usually pray.
- Paul isn't praying for **health or wealth,**
- He's not praying for **good grades or the removal of problems.**
- He's not praying for **any physical situation.**
- **He's praying for the ability to understand spiritual reality.**
- He's praying that Christians would have **spiritual wisdom,** and that **the knowledge of God would be revealed to us.**
- That the **eyes of our hearts would be enlightened.**
- Our problem is our inability to **perceive and understand spiritual reality.**
- Reality that's not seen with our **physical eyes,**
- but with the **wisdom & knowledge of and from God.**
- Wisdom and knowledge that comes from an **enlightened heart.**

- There are **spiritual realities** that we must see and understand and know and experience.
- And Paul prays for us to know **two basic spiritual realities**.
- **First**, Paul prays.

18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, (Ephesians 1:18)

- This **isn't the main point of the message** today but it's well worth mentioning.
- We need to have **our eyes opened to the reality** of what awaits those who believe.
- That God, through Christ Jesus, **has prepared for us a glorious inheritance**.
- An **inheritance** that we'll receive and experience throughout all eternity.
- We need **God to open our eyes to this truth**.
- And we need to **allow this truth to impact the way we live today**.
- Living not for the **temporal but for the eternal**,
- Not storing treasures on earth but storing them in heaven.
- Looking not to the things of this world but to our **future eternal inheritance** in Christ.
- But it's not just to the future that we look to.
- Our problem is...
- **We need the eyes of our hearts enlightened,**
- **And this is the main point of the message and the second spiritual reality that Paul prays for us to know...**
- **That we may know**

19 what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might. (Ephesians 1:19)

- Notice Paul **is praying that we know something**.
- He didn't pray that we will receive **the riches of our glorious inheritance**.
- He didn't pray that we will receive **the immeasurable power of God**.
- He's praying that we would **know these things**.
- **And what that says is that, in Christ, they are already ours**.
- You have the **inheritance**; you have the **power of God**,
- The problem is you and I don't **know them as we should**.
- We are too **spiritually blind** to see them.
- We can't seem to get **the right prescription** for the **eyes of our heart**.
- We can't focus on our **future eternal inheritance in the saints**.
- And We can't focus on **the immeasurable power of God towards us NOW**.
- **Why?**
- Because we're distracted by both **the pleasures** and **the problems** of this world.
- The Bible says ***sin is pleasurable for a season***.
- And we're distracted by our **sinful habits** that dull our spiritual understanding.
- Sin puts a haze over the eyes of our heart, **and we can't see spiritual reality**.

- But along with what is clearly sin,
- We are also distracted by the pleasures **of this world**.
- I mean how can we possibly focus on knowing the power God has toward us when we spend vast amounts of our time on the things of this world.
- On TV, on social media, on Playing Games, on our hobbies etc....
- And even beyond the **distraction of sin and the pleasures of this world**.
- We are also distracted by the pain and suffering of this world.
- If we can't see **into our glorious future** and **we don't know the power of God**.
- Then this **world can become overwhelming**,
- We can be **overcome by fear and worry every time** we hear or read the news.
- Why is **this terrible thing happening**,
- Why another **terrorist attack**?
- Why do **these wars continue**?
- Why is **the crime rate escalating**?
- Why do **bridges collapse and buses crash**?
- **And so much more.**
- And I am not saying that we shouldn't be concerned about these things, we should.
- But, as those who **say we trust in a Sovereign God**,
- We must see beyond the problems of this world.
- We need to have the **scales removed from the eyes of our hearts**.
- We need to see **the greatness of the immeasurable POWER OF GOD Toward Us**.
- We need to know **God is at work in our lives and in our world**, and we need to trust HIM.
- That's what Paul is praying for the church in **Ephesus**.
- He's praying for them to know the power of God in their lives.
- He knows he cannot change their perception, their hearts. **BUT GOD CAN**.
- So he prays.
- And he also knows that God **uses means** to answer prayer.
- What do I mean by that?
- Well, for example, we can pray for the salvation of a friend,
- but God doesn't answer that prayer by directly placing the truth of the gospel in their minds.
- He answers through the means of enabling them to hear the gospel.
- Because It's by hearing the gospel that God opens hearts and causes belief.
- ***faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. (Romans 10:17)***
- ***So, hearing the gospel through the word of Christ is the means God uses to bring saving faith.***
- And the same **is true for Paul's prayer for the Ephesians**.
- God uses means to give them and us wisdom and knowledge,
- He uses means to open the eyes of **our hearts**.
- So we might know of **our inheritance and His great power toward us**.

- Therefore, along with prayer, Paul adds some means that God can use to answer his prayer,
- Some Holy Spirit inspired words, to change our hearts.
- And these means, these words are...

3. The Pictures of Knowing Resurrection Power

- Paul is praying that God would break **through our spiritual dullness**.
- That we might **know and experience the immeasurable greatness of his power NOW**.
- But how do we **know that power exists and is at work in us**.
- **What's the evidence?**
- The *evidence Paul gives are pictures/examples of the resurrection power at work in Jesus Christ*.
- The first picture is of the resurrection itself. Verse 19.

¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead (Ephesians 1:19-20)

- Jesus didn't somehow survive the cross and stagger out of his grave. **No one stole His body**,
- The tomb was empty **because by God's great might He raised Jesus from the dead**.
- Now raising someone from the dead certainly pictures **immeasurable power**.
- **But the resurrection of Jesus Christ** is more than **just one man being brought back to life**.
- **The resurrection of Christ** means **that death itself has been defeated**.
- As Paul writes in 1 **Corinthians 15:54-55** because of Christ...

⁵⁴ ... "Death is swallowed up in victory." ⁵⁵ "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" (1 Corinthians 15:54-55)

- This means that because the power that raised Jesus from the dead is power toward us **who believe**.
- We too will experience **physical resurrection**.
- We are promised that **when we die, God's Power toward us will physically raise us to eternal life with Jesus Christ...**
- But we don't have to **wait for resurrection to experience God's power**.
- Even now... Paul writes in **Ephesians 2:5...**

⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— (Ephesians 2:5)

- God's **Power toward us is NOW...**
- And it raises **us spiritually from the dead and gives us life and faith NOW**.
- When we were dead in our sin.
- When we were held **captive to the evil power**.
- When there was absolutely nothing we could do **because a corpse has no power**.
- God, by grace (by his unmerited favor) saved us from **our captor SIN**.
- And by His immeasurable power HE made us alive together with Christ.
- **That is Resurrection power toward US!!!**

- **And there's more...**
- The resurrection of Christ not only means the death of death **it means victory over sin.**
- **That's what Paul says as he continues in 1 Corinthians 15...**

56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:56-57)

- Because of our sin (revealed empowered by the law) we were **sentenced to death.**
- **But by the power** of God, both sin and death has been defeated **by Jesus Christ.**
- **And this sin defeating power is available to us.**
- We can have **victory over sin** through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- **On the Cross,** Christ died for **our sin past present and future...**
- And then he rose, empowering us to not just be forgiven but to have victory over sin.
- If you are struggling with sin, then look to Christ.
- Know that in Christ you have been made alive.
- And know you have received the resurrection power to achieve victory over sin NOW.
- **And there's still more...**
- Not only can we know God's power that raised Christ from the dead...
- We can know the power that...

20 ...seated him (Christ) at his right hand in the heavenly places, (Ephesians 1:20)

- God demonstrated his acceptance of **Christ's sacrificial death...**
- By not only raising him from the dead but bringing him into heaven, seating him at his right hand...
- And that power that placed Jesus at God's right hand puts us there also.
- Do you know, that right now, if you've trusted in Christ, you are seated in the heavenlies.
- Look at **Ephesians 2:5-6:**

5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated (PAST TENSE) us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, (Ephesians 2:5-6)

- We are not only **raised (made alive) with Christ.**
- But we are **seated in the heavenly places with Christ.**
- The power that **took Jesus from death and put him eternally** in God's presence.
- has put you there also.
- But it takes an enlightened heart to see this, to believe this.
- By faith you must trust that you are **already seated with Christ in heaven.**
- **This speaks of our security in Christ.**
- God not only **saves you,** but in Christ he will **preserve** you in the heavenlies.
- Yes, we continue to exist and face trials and temptations here on earth.
- But in **some mysterious way God,** like a rare treasure, **God has secured us in his presence.**
- This is amazing stuff...**and this should impact the way we think and live.**

- Know that if you have trusted in Jesus Christ.
- By **God's immeasurable power toward you**, your salvation is secure.
- And therefore, **you need not live in fear**.
- You can **live in the power of Christ**.
- You can **risk all for Christ** because there is **not real risk in Christ**.
- You **can live in love for and service to Christ**.
- You **can live not for yourself and your glory, but for the Glory of Christ!**
- You can **live in the power and knowledge that you are seated in heavenly places with Jesus Christ**.
- And the pictures of **power continue to come...**
- **Verse 21** continues...
- Through the immeasurable greatness of God's power Christ is seated at the right hand of God in heavenly places...

21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. (Ephesians 1:21)

- In **Ephesians 6:12-17** in the passage about spiritual warfare, putting on the armor of God.
- Paul identifies this **rule and authority and power and dominion to include....**
- Spiritual forces of evil, Satan, and his demonic forces.
- And Jesus is not just **slightly above these evil forces**, his is far above them.
- He is far above **every name that is named throughout all of history**.
- Paul wrote in **Colossians 2:15** that at the cross...

15 [God] disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in [Christ]. (Colossians 2:15)

- So, because of his **crucifixion and resurrection**, Jesus was exalted over all the hosts of hell.
- This means that **Satan and his forces** have been defeated.
- By the power of **God, Death and Sin and Satan** have been defeated.
- They have yet to be removed from this world, and battles are yet to be fought.
- But PRAISE GOD, they are defeated foes.
- And we have the power to **fight both Sin and Satan**.
- Not with our power but with **the immeasurable greatness of God's power toward us**.
- We fight with the same power that God used in Christ to defeat all rule and authority and power and dominion.
- If you are in **Christ and Christ is over all**
- Then you have **the power to overcome** all the enemies' attacks.
- As Paul writes in **1 Corinthians 10:13...**

13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

- That way of escape, the way we endure the temptations and attacks of sin and Satan is trusting in Jesus Christ through whom you receive the Power of God.
- God empowers us to **run from temptation and run to HIM.**
- Knowing we have been **made alive in Christ.**
- By faith, seeing ourselves seated in the heavenlies we **overcome Sin and Satan.**
- And **we live in the power of God toward us.**
- And just to be very clear this is not a Christian form of positive thinking where we believe our thoughts can conjure up or change reality.
- This is knowing what reality truly is, and believing it and living based on it.
- And that brings us to the **final picture in Paul's Prayer...**
- We not only **see God's power in the resurrection** and in **Jesus seated in the heavenlies far above all...**
- **In Verses 22 & 23** is says...

22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. (Ephesians 1:22-23)

- Jesus is not just far above the **spiritual forces of evil, Satan** and his demonic forces...
- By God's Power, **All Things are under Jesus feet**, the risen Christ is "**head over all things.**"
- That word **head means HE has authority and rule over...**
- And that word **All in the Greek means ALL**
- So, Jesus Christ has authority over all history and humans and demons and disease.
- Over nature (hurricanes, lightning, tornadoes, volcanoes, earthquakes, floods, global warming)
- Over businesses and bridges and buses and healthcare, sports, March Madness, entertainment, the Internet, social media.
- Over military, governments, wars, presidents, kings, religions, universities,
- Over solar systems, stars, galaxies, molecules, atoms, subatomic particles,
- and over ten thousand things no one has yet discovered.
- **Jesus is head over everything.**
- **And if you are his**, if you are **in Christ**, what does that mean for you!!!
- Notice the context in which Paul **says that Jesus is head over all things.**
- The context is **God giving Jesus to the Church, to HIS body.**
- Which means that he is, **of course**, the all-powerful **head of the Church.**
- He is the head of His body; **he is your head and mine!**
- And therefore, we must live for him.
- But it also means...Get this...
- That Christ is **our gift**, he was given to us **by God to rule over us.**
- He is **that perfect, gracious, compassionate, loving all powerful ruler that we long for.**
- Which means he not **only rules.**
- But he also **serves us as our Leader and Savior and King!**
- We have **access to Christ**; we **have relationship with Christ!**
- He fills us and **fellowships with us!**
- He freely gives **Himself and His power to US!**

- And we, his church, **his body are the fullness of Him.**
 - We are **part of Christ; we are in Christ.**
 - And the fact that he fills all in all means **that we are filled with Christ.**
 - And Christ fills all with us, with His Church.
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- God's power toward us means He fills all things with **his crucified and risen Son.**
 - And He **makes us, the church, the embodiment of that fullness.**
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- And **what I think that means** is that where Christ rules, we will rule.
 - He created humanity in the beginning to **inhabit a beautiful creation.**
 - To subdue it, and enjoy it, and reflect his glory in it.
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- That is what he intends to do through the **new humanity, his body, the church.**
 - He will **fill creation** with all his fullness of his glory.
 - And you will be that fullness— **“his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.”**
 - This is **the immeasurable greatness of God's power at work toward you now.**
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- **I know this isn't easy to understand...to grasp hold of.**
 - And I'm not sure if I've done a very good job explaining it.
 - Because to be honest, **I don't know everything that it means.**
 - **But I do know it will be awesome.**
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- And we need to KNOW it, **that's why Paul is praying.**
 - When we think about our lives we need to think in terms **of the immeasurable greatness of God's power toward us.**
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- We need to know that the power we have seen pictured in Christ is available to us.
 - And we need to **live knowing we have that power.**
 - That power that raised Christ and made us alive in him.
 - That power that seated Christ in the heavenlies and secured our salvation.
 - That power that placed Christ above and over all and enables us to defeat death and sin and Satan.
 - That power that fills us with Christ that we might fill our world with HIM.
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- That we might **love Him and live for Him and Glorify Him in all we say and DO.**
 - That's the result the immeasurable greatness of God's resurrection Power toward those who believe.
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- And so, I want to close our time together in the same way Paul addressed the church in Ephesus.
 - Through prayer.
 - I want to pray that we, today and every day, now and next week, will know, will experience the Resurrection Power of God in our lives...
 - And I would invite you to stand with me, signifying your desire to experience this awesome resurrection power in your LIFE.

Prayer