

The Fullness of Christ Ephesians 1:17-23 “Knowing and *Knowing*”

Paul’s prayer for us is for God to give us the spirit of “wisdom, revelation & knowledge”.

“spirit”, not “Spirit”

/pneuma/ = vital force acting as wind or air, one’s breath, soul, or life. “spirited horse”

(pneumatic drill, pneumonia) (power, ability)

/sophia/ = (wisdom) intellectual mastery, skill

/apokalopsis/ = (revelation) ‘to take the cover off’

/epignosis/ = (knowledge) ‘to recognize’, fully know

Becoming acquainted with Christ.

“heart” versus “understanding” (Philemon 1:20)

Knowing Jesus will change your life!

1. The Hope of His calling.
 - That God has called you to His side and you did nothing to earn salvation.
 - You can’t lose the gift God has given you!
 - That God has a calling for you; a specific purpose and plan that He has set just for you because you are special to Him.
 - Life has meaning and joy and peace!
2. The Riches of His Inheritance. “the glory of His inheritance in the saints”
 - You are the child of the King!
 - Galatians 4:5-7
 - Romans 8:17
3. The Greatness of His Power. “exceeding”, “incomparable”, “immeasurable”
 - /huperballo/ - to throw over something, someone

How great is God’s power that is working in us?

- Acts 26:18 – takes us from Satan’s power & places us in God’s
- Romans 15:13 – makes us abound in hope
- 2 Timothy 1:7 – overcomes all fears
- Revelation 20:6 – keeps us from the second death

God’s power was enough...

To raise Jesus from the dead.

To seat Jesus at His right hand. (of power, Matt. 26:64)

To place Jesus above every other principality, power, might, dominion, name.

To put everything under Jesus’ feet.

God gave Jesus to the church.

Church = /ekklesia/ - the “called out ones” (1John 4:4)

The church is Christ’s Body in that... It’s source of life is Christ. It is sustained by Christ. It is directed by Christ. It is powered by Christ. It is the instrument by which Christ works on earth.

(Hinting at the Mystery.) - We are a part of something BIG!

We are “the fullness of Christ”. (Christ withholds NOTHING of Who He Is from us.)

We are the Body of Christ, with Jesus as the Head.

(Not a society, but a living organism.)