

Paul's Second Prayer for the Ephesians



READ IT:

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; *and* that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, ²¹ to Him *be* the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

EPHESIANS 3:14-21

The main point: Paul's intercession for power, love, and spiritual maturity is so that we might be filled up to all the fullness of God.



EXAMINE IT:

Observation—What do I see?

- Any repeated words? _____
- Who is the subject? _____
- Who is the object? _____
- What are the action verbs? _____
- What are the conjunctions? _____
- Any purpose clauses ("*so that*")? _____
- Any commands? _____



OUTLINE IT:

Structure/Bones—What are the important markers?

A. The Invocation (*vv.14-15*)

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,

B. The Petition (*vv.16-19*)

1. To be strengthened by the Spirit of God (*vv.16-17*)

¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; *and* that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

2. To comprehend the love of Christ (*vv.18-19a*)

¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge

3. To be filled with the fullness of God (*v.19b*)

¹⁹ that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

C. The Doxology (*vv.20-21*)

²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, ²¹ to Him *be* the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.



UNDERSTAND IT:

Interpretation—What does it mean?

Key words and theological and practical uses

What are the key words and why do they matter?

What is the key doctrine(s) and what other passages support it?

What are the uses of this doctrine in everyday life?



APPLY IT:

Choose which applications apply and how you will seek to practice it in your life today.

- What *instruction* does this text reinforce?
- What *error* does this text refute?
- What *duty* does this text require?
- What *prohibition* does this text forbid?
- What *examination* does this text call for?
- What *commitment* does this text declare?
- Is there an *example* to follow?
- Are there *commandments* to obey?
- Are there *errors* to avoid?
- Are there *sins* to forsake or confess?
- Are there *promises* to claim?
- Are there *principles* to implement?
- Are there *temptations* to resist?
- Are there *praises* to render?
- Are there *attitudes* to adjust?

Write it here: (bring it back with you next week to see if you applied it—I double-dog dare you!)

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