

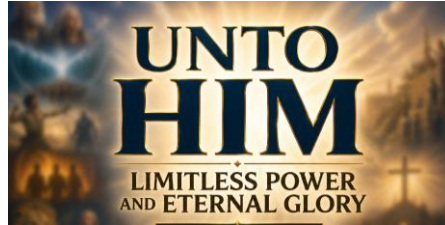
Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Current Book: Ephesians – verse by verse

**Scriptures for Today: Ephesians 3:20-21 – limitless power and eternal glory unto our God!**

Today's Message:

**"Unto Him"**



## INTRODUCTION

Last week, Paul prayed for believers to be strengthened in the inner man, rooted and grounded in Christ's love, and filled with all the fulness of God. The inner man is the true spiritual you who craves the word of God, the Holy Spirit's help and leading, and godly Christian fellowship. Today, we will end chapter three with 2 of the greatest verses in the Bible. Now we have covered some of the highest doctrinal ground in the New Testament. What glorious truth! And to that Paul ends the doctrinal portion of his letter with God's limitless power and eternal glory. *Unto Him* – he says – *be glory in the church by Jesus Christ throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.* This is God's message to you...

## LEARNING TOGETHER

### ❖ The Text      Ephesians 3:20-21

#### A. Limitless Power – God's power exceeds human limitation.

1. God possesses the **UNLIMITED** power and capability to accomplish anything He wills.

- **Ephesians 3:20** – Now **UNTO HIM** that is **able to do** exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think ...

**"Able to do"** – God is fully capable of carrying out whatever He intends without limitation

**"Exceeding abundantly above"** – beyond, surpassing + overflowing + more in degree

**"All that we ask or think"** – everything we can request from God or conceive in our minds

#### Comparing Scriptures

- **Isaiah 55:8-9** – ... so are **MY WAYS higher than your ways**, and **MY THOUGHTS...**
- **Jeremiah 33:3** – Call unto me, and I will answer... shew... **great and mighty things**
- **Luke 1:37** – For **WITH GOD nothing shall be impossible.**
- **1 Corinth 2:9** – ... Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered...

#### Biblical Examples [These are *real* problems...]

- *Abraham and Sarah, Hagar, Joseph, Moses, Israel at Red Sea, Wilderness Israel, Jericho, Rahab, Gideon, Samson, Ruth, Hannah, Samuel, David and Goliath, Elijah, widow of Zarephath, Elisha, Shunammite woman, Naaman, Jehoshaphat, Hezekiah, Assyrian invasion, Jeremiah, Daniel's friends, Daniel, Jonah, Esther, Nehemiah, Ezra...*

#### Psalm 33:9

For **he spake**, and it was done; **he commanded**, and it stood fast.

#### John 11:43

And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, **Lazarus, come forth.**

#### Human Limitations

"Too late"  
"Too small"  
"Too broken"  
"Too powerful"

**"Now unto him that is able... above all that we ask or think..."**

God specializes in situations that are already over – because that is when He gets the most glory!  
Your limitation is not a barrier to God – it is the platform for Him to get glory! Let go and let God!

**B. Present and Available Power – God’s power works within believers.**

2. This same God of the Bible is who Paul says is working in YOU right NOW!

**What Happens if we do not believe this?**

1. The Christian life becomes **self-powered** (vs. Spirit powered)
2. Prayer becomes **small and safe** (vs. bold and expectant)
3. Fear begins to **dominate decisions** (vs. courage for Christ)
4. Sin maintains its hold in **sin cycles** (vs. walking in victory)
5. God’s glory is **diminished in your life** (vs. God’s glory is visible in your life)

- **Ephesians 3:20** – ... ACCORDING TO the power **that worketh in us**,  
*“According to the power”* – not “out of” but “according to” – this is a life-changing truth!  
*“Worketh in us”* – active, ongoing operation inside of us right now – do you feel Him?
- Comparing Scriptures**
- **Ephesians 1:19** – ...the **exceeding greatness of his power to US-ward** who believe...
  - **Philippians 2:13** – For it is God which **worketh in YOU** both to will and to do...
  - **Colossians 1:29** – ... **according to his working, which worketh in ME mightily.**
  - **Romans 8:11** – ... **if the Spirit of him... raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in YOU...**

**Biblical Example**

- **Peter – Acts 3-4** He overcame failures to become a bold preacher by God’s Spirit!

**Practical Application**

- The Christian life is not self-improvement – it is divine empowerment by the Spirit.
- The Christian life is not hard – it is **IMPOSSIBLE** without God’s enabling power!

**C. Unto Him be Glory – the mission statement for every believer and Church!**

3. God deserves glory **in the church** and **in your PERSONAL** life both now and for ever!

- **Ephesians 3:21** – **Unto him BE GLORY in the church by Christ Jesus** throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. “In the church”  
You ARE the church!

*“Unto HIM be glory”* – deserved praise, adoration, exaltation, honor, and magnificence!  
*“In the church by Christ Jesus”* – the church (and your life) is the platform of God’s glory!  
*“Throughout all ages, world without end.”* – unto all generations and all ages! **WOW!**

**Comparing Scriptures**

- **Psalms 115:1** – Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto **THY NAME give glory...**
- **Romans 16:27** – To God only wise, **BE GLORY** through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.
- **2 Timothy 4:18** – ... TO WHOM **BE GLORY** for ever and ever. Amen.
- **Revelation 1:6** – ... TO HIM **BE GLORY** and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

**Biblical Example**

- **Acts 2:42-47** – God’s glory was **VISIBLE!** Unity, love, power, praise, missions, etc!

**Practical Application**

- The Church is not about us – it is all about Him! We are here to display His glory!
- The Christian life is not about you – God gives you breath and life for His glory!

**W1828 “Ages”**  
 Periods of time, as distinguished from others. **“All ages”** would be **all-time** and forever and ever!

**The Revelation**  
 Revelation 1:6  
 Revelation 4:9  
 Revelation 4:11  
 Revelation 5:12  
 Revelation 5:13  
 Revelation 7:12  
 Revelation 11:13  
 Revelation 14:7  
 Revelation 15:8  
 Revelation 16:9  
 Revelation 19:1  
 Revelation 21:11  
 Revelation 21:23

**“Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus...”**

Are you limiting God’s work in your life? **Psalms 78:41** Expand your expectations and trust Him.  
 Are you trying to live the Christian life in your own strength? Live by His power and grace.  
 Is your life bringing God the glory He deserves? What are you going to do about it?