

## Eph 05 – His Power Toward Us - Eph 1:19-23

Last week – Paul taught us where the **Ignition Switch** was –  
for us to experience the Greatest Blessings of our being “In Christ”

### **Those Three Greatest Blessings were . . . That You May Know;**

- 1) what is the **Hope** of His Calling
- 2) what are the **Riches** of His Inheritance in the Saints
- 3) what is the Exceeding Greatness of His **Power** toward us who Believe

Paul prayed God would give us a spirit of wisdom & revelation –  
& then he tells us in vs’s 17-18 exactly where the Ignition Switch is  
for us to experience these blessings in our lives

### **He prays in Eph 1:17-18**

*17 that . . . God . . . may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation **in the knowledge of Him**, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; . . .*

& we spent all last week saying - it is  
a Growing Personal Intimate Knowledge of God  
that is the “Ignition Switch” for all of the greatest blessings in our lives

We ended in V.19 - w/ the 3<sup>rd</sup> Blessing of Knowing God better ;

*That we would know **the Exceeding Greatness of His Power toward us who Believe***

& today - we’re going to take that phrase - & really focus on Exactly What is  
**the Exceeding Greatness of His Power toward us who Believe**

We need to understand the extent of God’s Power available to us –

for us to **Walk in the Spirit** every day –

for us to **Overcome** our own **flesh**

& to **Overcome** the **temptation** of **sin** that constantly bombards us

**We have** the Exceedingly Great power of God working on our behalf –

It’s a power **far great enough** to bring us **Victory** in Christ –  
**in every situation** – & in **every circumstance** in our lives

& the great news is - - as we grow in our intimate knowledge of God –  
we will also grow in our knowledge (& experience) of this  
Exceedingly Great Power God has made to abound toward us

## **Let's Pray**

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We'll p/u today where we left off last week -

### **Eph 1:19**

*19 [from v.18 - that you may know . . . ] and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power*

**The words** “toward Us” – mean in essence “made available to us”

**NIV** & **NLT** say : “His incomparably great power **FOR US** who believe”

**This unlimited power** of God is **FOR US** – Toward Us who believe –

God takes His Exceedingly Great & Mighty Power –

& He ‘**Extends It**’ –makes it available - to Every Single Believer

**Please hear that** – if you are a believer today - God has made

His Exceedingly Great & Mighty Power Available – TO YOU - TODAY

**& Here is the M.I.P. for this msg** –

We can either **access** that power TODAY – or

We can **reject** it - & continue living in our own miserable strength

**God has made All of His power available to us for:**

**Salvation** - (Being Born-Again)

**Sanctification** – (Walking in the Spirit)

**Glorification** – (Raised in a Glorified Body)

If you've been born again today (*by Receiving Christ as your Savior*)  
then you've already experienced the Power of the New Birth

& because you are Born Again – you will one day experience  
the ultimate use of that power when God “Glorifies” you

But what about the Power for that middle word – “Sanctification” –

That's the life a Christian lives between being Born-Again  
& being Glorified in Eternity

You have the Unlimited Power of God available to you for this “*in-between*”  
time called “*Sanctification*” or “*Walking in the Spirit*”

The Question is - **Are you connected** to this Immeasurable Power  
for your **day-to-day walk** with Jesus

If you aren't – You can be – God has made this Power Available for you

Don't you think that's why Paul says in **Phil 3:10** -

*10 that I may **know Him** and **the power** of His resurrection, . . .*

& do you see the connection there between knowing **the Person** of  
*Jesus Christ* - & knowing **the Power** of *His resurrection* ?  
*they are vitally connected*

**We can know** – in *greater & greater degree* –

*“the exceeding greatness of His power **toward us** who believe” (v.19)*

& we need it – Don't We ?

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Now – Paul goes on – to try to unveil the extent of the Power  
God has made available to us  
by demonstrating the Power of God Revealed in Christ

& **we must remember** *Paul's Primary Point* (his context) –  
is to convey just **HOW Exceedingly Great** the Power of God is -  
- that Power that is available to us – Right Now !

Let's read **vs's19-20** together –  
to see Paul going into this demonstration of God's Power toward us

### **Eph 1:19-20**

19 [v.18 - that you may know . . . ] *and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, **according to** the working of His mighty power*  
20 *which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,*

The Exceeding Greatness of His Power –  
According to the Working of His Mighty Power . . .

These are the ‘Power Synonyms’ we looked at last week –  
Paul's trying to convey so much power he runs out of words

This Power is “according to” – can also be translated “conforming to” –  
**NLT** translates - “*this is the same power that raised Christ from the dead*”

The Exceeding Greatness of God's power toward us is the same Mighty  
Power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead –

THAT is the extent of the power God has made available to you

Just as the Cross was the greatest display of God's Love toward you  
The Resurrection is the Ultimate Display of God's power toward you

the Biggest Baddest Enemy each of us will ever face is DEATH –  
Death is the final, unbeatable, enemy . . .

Unless you have the power of God working in you thru Jesus Christ  
Death is an unconquerable enemy

But God's Power toward you has already conquered  
the unconquerable enemy of death –

So - what else in this life could be a match for His  
Exceedingly Great Power toward you ?? . . . Nothing –

if God's power toward you can conquer death –  
it can conquer every other trial, & every other enemy we come up against

Because this power of God that Raises us from the dead "In Christ"  
is NOT just for your Eternity

It's for you to Walk in Newness of Life TODAY

When we are Born-Again – we are So Identified w/ Jesus Christ –

that **Rom 6:4** says

*"4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, **that just as**  
Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so **we also**  
**should walk in newness of life.**"*

It's not just for when you die – But Right Now –  
Right Now - you can Walk in Newness of Life . . .

What does that mean – to Walk in Newness of Life – It means;  
Walking in Victory over Sin –  
Walking in Victory over every Trial & Every Temptation in this life

It means walking in the New Nature of Christ in Every Circumstance –  
in Every Situation - in every Trial - in every Temptation in this life

God has Given you the power to do that –  
you just need to know where the ignition switch is

Do you ? Do you know where the Ignition Switch is ??? . . . Do you Know ???

God has provided you The Power to Walk in the Newness of Life – Today

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As we continue – we see that not only did this Exceedingly Great Power  
**Raise Christ** from the dead –

but it also **Seated Him** at God's Right Hand in the heavenly places

### **again – the end of V.19 & V.20**

*19 . . . according to the working of His mighty power*

*20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,*

The Power that gives us “Newness of Life” - & Raises us from the dead –  
is the same power that has Seated Christ at God's Right Hand

To be seated at God's Right Hand is the position of  
highest possible honor & authority

& we might say – well yeah – that's Jesus Christ –  
of course He gets to sit there – but what about me . . .  
*I'm certainly not Christ . . .*

*(no, you're not).* . . But let's just take a peek at next week's msg –

### **Eph 2:5-6**

*5 even when we were dead in trespasses, [God] made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),*

*6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,*

## **The Exceedingly Great power of God has :**

- 1) Made You **Alive** together with Christ
- 2) **Raised** You up together in Christ
- 3) Made You **Sit** Together – in the heavenly places in Christ !!

**If God's power** toward us has done **ALL THAT** . . .

Then certainly He has Made Enough Power Available to you  
to get you thru whatever you're going thru – Right?

Paul is saying the Resurrection & Exaltation of Jesus Christ  
is Proof – by Demonstration - of the Exceeding Greatness of the Power  
God has made to abound toward you

We need to know this power better - & we only can by Knowing HIM better

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Now – in **V.21** – Paul expands on **just how high** *Jesus Christ*  
has been exalted in the Heavens

& remember - because of our being “In Christ” –  
we have been Positionally Exalted in the Heavens right w/ Him

Again – let's read from V.19 - thru V.21

### **Eph 1:19-21**

*19 [that you may know] . . . what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward  
us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power*

*20 which 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 principality and power and might and dominion, and every  
name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.*

The greatest confidence we have of the Power of God at work For Us  
Is that - it is the same power that Exalted Christ Far above

ALL Principality & Power & Might & Dominion & every Name that is Named  
Not only in this age but in the age that is to come

THAT – covers Everything – Jesus Christ has been Exalted above every possible thing in all the Universe

There is nothing – in any realm – in any age –  
that Jesus Christ has NOT been Exalted over

& the same Mighty Power of God that Exalted Christ above all things –  
is at work FOR YOU – is abounding ‘toward you’ . . .

So much so - that this Might Power is at Work “For You”  
to place you With Christ – in that Exalted Place in the Heavens

**In Jn 17:24 Jesus Prays :**

*24 “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; . . .*

Jesus Christ – the One who has been Exalted above all things –  
Wants you & I to be in that Exalted Place with Him

& He has made the only way possible for that to happen –

The question is – do we believe it –  
& are we accessing that Resurrection Power that’s available to us today ?

That same power that will Glorify us with Christ . . .

Are we growing in our knowledge of that same  
Exceedingly Great & Mighty Power Source – TODAY ?

That Full Resurrection Power is available to us –  
we just need to continually Access the Ignition Switch

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**V. 22** continues the Exaltation of Christ – but also  
clearly places the church right in the middle of it - “In Christ”



## **Eph 1:22**

*22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,*

### **The NIV Clarifies one critical word here –**

*22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church,*

Jesus Christ is the absolute Sovereign Lord over all the Universe –

**AND** He is the Head over everything **FOR** the church - (*mind boggling*)

Jesus Christ – Who is Exalted above all things – Who Rules over ALL things  
Does so – as the Head – **FOR** the church

& ALL the Power & Position that is in the Head – flows also to the whole body

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Now – going into **V.23** – we just get Rocked w/ 2 incredible truths

**Let's just read** the end of **v.22** - & the beginning of **v.23**

### **the last of V.22 & first of V.23 –**

*22 . . . and [God] gave Him [Christ] to be head over all things to [for] the church,*

*23 which is His body, . . .*

This is one of the greatest descriptions in the Bible of Christ & the Church  
- - He is the Head of the Church – & we are His body - -

but there are Two Truths in Vs's 22-23 that are absolutely Mind Blowing –  
2 truths that should give us such confidence of His Power toward us

**#1** All that Christ is – in His Glorified, Exalted state –

Ruling over every Principality, Power, Might, Dominion, & Name –

ALL that HE is – He is **AS** the Head of the Body – which is us (the church)

We are as vitally connected to Christ as my head is connected to my body –  
& where the Head goes, the Body must go with it

& Jesus Christ – as our head – has  
Conquered death - - Been Resurrected – - Been Glorified – &  
Been Exalted over all things in all the universe . . .

We have been there - & done that – as His Body  
ALL that Christ is As our Head – we share in AS His Body –

& that is Mind Boggling as to the confidence it should give us –  
as to the Exceeding Greatness of his Power Toward Us

but let me give you the **final Mind Blower** for the day –

### **looking at the end of V.22 & all of V.23**

22-23 . . . *the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.*

Now – this is a **paradox** (*something that seems contradictory yet is true*) –  
there’s a paradox here that should send us walking out of here on air

“Fullness” means “that which fills” or “to fill up”

Looking at the end of **V.23** we know Jesus Christ fills all in all –  
**He is the one** who fills up, who completes everything . . .

But in a way that we won’t be able to fully grasp –  
this Vs. says WE (the church) are the “Fullness”  
of the one Who fills all in all

We are His Fullness – the One Who fills All in All

### **Somehow (in some way) we “complete” Christ –**

Like a Body completes a Head  
Like a Bride completes a Bridegroom  
Like the Branches complete the Vine  
& the Sheep complete the Shepherd

In a way we don’t dare try to explain or understand -  
Jesus Christ sees Himself in somehow Incomplete w/o His body (*the church*)

& that should give us sufficient confidence & strength  
for any trial this temporal world can throw at us

Because we are Eternally United w/ Him as His body – &  
Because He somehow considers Himself incomplete without us . . .

Because of that - the Exceeding Greatness of ALL of His Mighty power  
is working for us (toward us) - & available to us – Right Now –  
simply because of our position “In Christ”

The only question is – **ARE YOU HOOKED UP TO IT?**

It's like the Space Shuttle sitting on the Launch Pad –  
w/ Rocket Engines capable of Millions of pounds of thrust all fueled up

& everybody's sitting & watching the greatest power of thrust known to man  
but – nobody can find the ignition switch

All that power – All that potential - & it just sits there on the launch pad  
because nobody seems to know where the ignition switch is

last week – Paul told us where the ignition switch is  
for all the Exceedingly Great & Mighty Power of God in your life - - - -

**It's found in an ever-growing, intimate, personal knowledge  
of Jesus Christ**

The more you know Him – the deeper you grow in Him . . .

the more you'll have access to the **ignition switch**  
of all the Mighty Power of God made available for you – Today