

Let Grace Be Your Compass

Ephesians 3:1-13

When I think of all of this, I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus for the benefit of you Gentiles . . . assuming, by the way, that you know God gave me the special responsibility of extending his grace to you Gentiles.

Ephesians 3:1-13

As I briefly wrote about earlier, God himself revealed his mysterious plan to me. As you read what I have written, you will understand my insight into this plan regarding Christ.

Ephesians 3:1-13

God did not reveal it to previous generations, but now by his Spirit he has revealed it to his holy apostles and prophets.

Ephesians 3:1-13

And this is God's plan: Both Gentiles and Jews who believe the Good News share equally in the riches inherited by God's children.

Ephesians 3:1-13

Both are part of the same body, and both enjoy the promise of blessings because they belong to Christ Jesus. By God's grace and mighty power, I have been given the privilege of serving him by spreading the Good News.

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Though I am the least deserving of all God's people, he graciously gave the privilege of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ. I was chosen to explain to everyone this mysterious plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning.

Ephesians 3:1-13

God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.

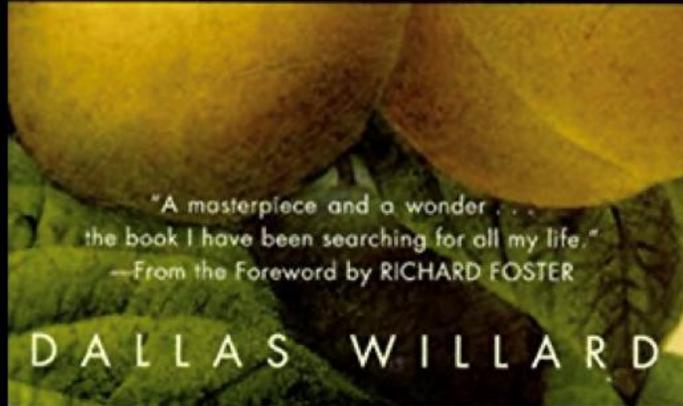
Ephesians 3:1-13

Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence. So please don't lose heart because of my trials here. I am suffering for you, so you should feel honored.



THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

REDISCOVERING OUR HIDDEN LIFE IN GOD



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—From the Foreword by RICHARD FOSTER

DALLAS WILLARD

Broken Compass#1

Don't Play God

Broken Compass#2

Don't Ignore God

“Grace didn’t just forgive Paul’s past. It gave his life a new direction. It became his compass.”

1. Paul interrupts himself in this passage to explain how grace changed his life. *Where in your own life have you experienced an “interruption” that forced you to rethink your direction?*
2. The sermon suggested that many of us move through life at high speed without knowing if we’re “right-side up.” *What are some ways people can feel spiritually or emotionally disoriented today?*
3. The sermon described grace as a compass rather than a solution to all problems. *What’s the difference between wanting God to remove life’s problems and asking God to guide us through them?*