

Passage: Ephesians 1:15-23

Title: Using God's Promises in Our Daily Walk

Summary: The Book of Ephesians is about all the spiritual riches available to the believer. Ephesians 1:3 the theme of the whole book says, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ*: For the first fourteen verses the Apostle Paul talks about how we are "born spiritually rich" when we trusted Christ. But he says that being born spiritually rich is not enough, for we must grow in our understanding of our riches if we are ever going to use them to the glory of God. God desired that the Christians in Ephesus understood what great spiritual wealth they had in Christ. After talking about Knowledge is Power through the first 14 verses, Paul goes and starts to pray for them that they would seize this Knowledge and have the Power to use in their daily walk. Two thousand years later, God desires the same for us today.

Overview/Outline of the Book of Ephesians

We continue on our great adventure as we begin this study through the Book of Ephesians, chapter-by-chapter, verse-by-verse, and sometimes word-by-word. This Book takes us into breathtaking views of the greatest Christian doctrines and promises, and why it has been heralded the Swiss Alps of the New Testament.

The Book of Ephesians has a prebuilt outline to it:

- Doctrine (chapters 1-3)
- Duty (chapter 4-6)

Doctrine - is, "who is God", "what has He done for us", and "what does He think of us".

Duty - is "what does He want us to do", and "what can I ask of Him to do it (for He doesn't ask us to do anything that He will not help us, empower us, to accomplish it". Along with that will come, "what we need to be on guard of".

****We have to know who were re in Christ, the security of our position in Him, before we can walk victoriously, and battle spiritually. ****

Regarding that, Ephesians has a most interesting and wonderful order to it in verb tenses such as, seated, walking, and being steadfast.

- Chapter 2 – We are "Seated" with Christ in heaven
- Chapter 4 – We are called to "Walk" worthy of the calling
- Chapter 6 – We are called to "Stand" against the enemy and his ways.

Ephesians 2:6-7 (NKJV) ⁶ and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 4:1 (NKJV) ¹ I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,

Ephesians 6:14 (NKJV) ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

Doctrine & Duty - This outline is nothing new to us, as every time we open this Bible here at CCAAC, we always ask these same 5 question. And..... apply what we learn, and what the Lord speaks to our heart as we study this treasure....

Today's Passage:

Ephesians 1:15-23 (NKJV) ¹⁵ Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ 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, 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. ²² And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

3P's of the Passage (Title: Precision Prayer)

Person

- Is a Saint
- Is Rich
- Is Heaven Bound
- Is Beautiful

Position

- His Inheritance
- His

Promise

- His Power
- His Wealth

Multimillionaire William Hearst

Multimillionaire William Hearst invested a fortune in art works from around the world. One day Mr. Hearst found a description of some valuable artwork he felt he must have, so he sent his agent abroad to find it. After months of searching the agent reported that he finally found it. They were in Mr. Hearst's warehouse. Hearst had been searching frantically for treasures he already owned. Had he read the catalog of his treasures; he would have spared himself much trouble. The catalog of our treasures is right here at our fingertips, all we have to do is read it.

Why it Matters to You

The Book of Ephesians is about all the spiritual riches available to the believer. Ephesians 1:3 the theme of the whole book says, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ*: For the first fourteen verses the Apostle Paul talks about how we are "born spiritually rich" when we trusted Christ. But he says that being born spiritually rich is not enough, for we must grow in our understanding of our riches if we are ever going to use them to the glory of God. God desired that the Christians in Ephesus understood what great spiritual wealth they had in Christ. After talking about Knowledge is Power through the first 14 verses, Paul goes and starts to pray for them that they would seize this Knowledge and have the Power to use in their daily walk. Two thousand years later, God desires the same for us today.

***Ephesians 1:3 (NKJV)** ³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,*

This isn't a Bible Study just to encourage you for today, but a powerful prayer for life. A prayer, that if you will pray daily will change your life, and the life of those you commit to pray for. For this is a prayer that asks for God's power to be supplied to your life and those you pray for. With God's power in your life, then there is nothing that can keep you from "being the glory of God."

Do you want a ministry like Paul's? Then follow his examples we see of him in the Bible – here we see him as a man of prayer. Prayer is something we are all capable of doing. We may not be able to teach like Paul, evangelize like Paul, but we can all pray like Paul. I believe that it is prayer first that equips us to do the rest. You can't do anything until you pray, but you can do anything after you pray. Do you want an abundant Christian life, then this prayer is for you. Parents do you want to see your children living and walking for the Lord, pray this prayer daily for them. Husbands and wives, do you want a marriage that glorifies God, then pray this prayer daily for your partner

God seeks those who seek Him in Spirit and Truth.

In Ezekiel 22 God explains why He would bring judgement against Israel, because of their sin. God was also sickened by Israel's wicked leader who led the people into sin.

(Ezekiel 22:30 NKJV) "So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one."

All God was looking for was someone to simply pray, but he found none. Can you pray? Can you? Can you stand in the gap? Your voice matters in heaven. You can be a missionary in a dozen countries and never leave Baltimore. You can heal the sick; snatch a sinner from hell's flames all without leaving your knees. Today God is still looking for men and women to stand in the gap.

As you pray this for others a beautiful thing happens within you, God will move in your heart to do something about it in their life. As we pray for others, God places a burden in our heart for the person we are praying for. As we pray for them, God starts to form our mind with His mind, and we take on the mind of Christ and intercede for them as Christ Himself does. We will be so moved we can't sit and idly watch; we have to be more involved in their lives, it is impossible to truly pray for someone without becoming emotionally involved.

There are 4 main points in Paul's prayer, we can use his outline and pray for each other (and ourselves). We hear so much about the Prayer of Jabez, a great book if you ever get a chance to read it. Well here is a prayer of equal power. When my mind can't focus, I go to these prayers in the Bible.

The 4 Prayer Points are:

1. That they will know God More. (v.17)
2. That they will know the Hope of His Calling (v.18)
3. That they will know they are His Inheritance (v.18)
4. That they will know the Power Available to them (v.19-23)

The Word of God in Our Hand Today

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Ephesians 1:15 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,

Ephesians 1:16 do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:

Prays for Those Doing Well / Old Chinese Health Program

Notice this example also, for it is vitally important: See how Paul prays for the people who are doing well.

after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, these people were doing great, yet Paul still prays for them. We tend to pray for the people who are not so well. Sick, depressed, unemployed troubled kids - which is all-good to pray for; But Paul said after I heard how well you were doing I prayed for you.

For centuries the old Chinese health program. You paid doctors up front to keep you well. If you got ill, they had to pay you back. If a person died of a preventable disease the doctor had to put a lantern outside the

shop to show how many he didn't keep well. We need to pray for each other while we are doing well, to keep us doing well. Follow Paul, pray that God keeps the strong, strong. Satan saves his heavy artillery for the people who are walking with the Lord and doing damage on the gates of hell. Parents pray this prayer every day for your kids, husbands pray this for your wife, wives likewise. Get a prayer partner and each pray this prayer for each other....and watch what happens.....or better yet, what doesn't happen.

Prayer Point 1: That they will know God More. (v.17)

Ephesians 1:17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,

See into Heart of God

Remember verse 8, **Wisdom** – is the knowledge that sees into the heart of things and know them as they really are. God has given us superabundant wisdom, and now Paul prays that we will seize it. That we will see into the heart of God and see Him of how He really is, that we would know Him more and more every day. Remember verse 16 Paul said he does not cease making mention of you in his prayers.... he prays this daily.

Every believer needs to grow in the knowledge of God. A believer can't just be satisfied in knowing Him as their Savior. Never settle for, "that will do." I come on Sunday.

We need to know Him deeper and more intimately every day. Ask this daily, and God will show you daily, guaranteed He will answer this prayer We need to know Him as Father, Guide, and Friend. Too many times we forget the simple fact, that He is our friend. Yes, we must reverence and respect Him for his Holiness, but He also wants us to go with Him for walks, a hot fudge Sunday, and quiet drives to watch the leaves change. We build friendships by spending quality time together.

Full Knowledge

Now the root of this word “knowledge” means super-knowledge, or full knowledge.

Paul is praying here for believers, the Holy Spirit is already dwelling in them, for they/we are sealed with the Holy Spirit. Paul is praying that we will let the Spirit do His work in us. The Holy Spirit delights in His special work opening up the things of Christ and revealing them to His saints. How does He do that, By giving insight into the truth already revealed in the Word of God. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 – all Scripture is giving by the Holy Spirit:

(2 Timothy 3:16-17) All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

That word “perfect” there in verse 17 means: complete, or perfect. All the full knowledge of God can be found in the Scriptures. Paul doesn't pray for them to kick bad habits or entangling sins, He prays that they will know Him more. As we know God more, those things know us less, for we are too busy fellowshiping with Him, to be bothered by the cares of this world.

When studied and preached simply and purely, verse by verse, book by book, the Bible can change lives and transform history.

(Isa 28:9-10 KJV) Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

If you need proof on the power of verse by verse studying, just ask Ulrich Zwingli.

Ulrich Zwingli was born on January 1, 1484, in a Swiss shepherd's cottage in the Alps. His parents instilled in him a love for God. The young man proved a brilliant student and following a brief stint as a schoolteacher he entered the priesthood. For ten years he labored in the village of Glarus, and there he began corresponding with the famous Greek scholar Erasmus.

The Swiss church was bubbling with corruption during this time. In 1516, when Zwingli moved to the city of Einsiedeln, he, too, was struggling hard with sin. In his new village, the young priest fell into an intimate relationship with the barber's daughter. But it was

also in Einsiedeln that he borrowed a copy of Erasmus's newly published Greek New Testament. Zwingli copied it. Carrying it everywhere, he pored over it continually and scribbled notes in the margins and memorized it. The pure Scripture began doing its work, and Zwingli's life and preaching took on new vigor. Soon he was invited to Zurich as chief preacher in the cathedral.

He arrived on December 27, 1518, and began his duties on his thirty-sixth birthday, January 1, 1519, with a shock. He announced that he would break a thousand years of tradition by abandoning the church liturgy and the weekly readings as a basis for his sermons. Instead, he would teach verse-by-verse through the New Testament, beginning immediately. He proceeded to preach that day from Matthew 1 on the genealogy of Christ. Such preaching was radical in its day, but the city of Zurich loved it. Zwingli's concern for the city's youth, his courage during the plague, and his cheerful temper dispelled initial doubts about his reformation ideas. Later, when opposition arose, Zurich's City Council and 600 other interested citizens gathered to evaluate his actions. The assembly (the First Zurich Disputation, 1523) affirmed Zwingli and encouraged his work. Lives were changed; history was made. The Swiss Reformation had begun.

Pray for yourself and others that daily: Pray they will fall in love with the Word, and That they will know God More. Pray that a Reformation will start in their heart.

Prayer Point 2: That they will know the Hope of His Calling (v.18)

Ephesians 1:18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

EYES: Buenos Aires, Argentina. An 86-year-old blind women held off four thieves with a stick yesterday when they broke into the house where she lives alone in a small Argentine town. One of the men tried to attack Julia Castillo after smashing in the door of her house before dawn. But she fought back with her stick and made so much noise that neighbors awoke and called police. The buglers were arrested. There is more to seeing than meets the eyes. God calls us to look past what we see immediately in front us physically, but to look forward to what is coming.

The believer's hope is of course is that we are heaven bound

(John 14:2 KJV) In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

But God wants us to live for heaven today, and not wait until we die or are raptured. Once your eyes have been opened and you are enlightened to the fact that you are already seated in heaven; you will be able to clearly see God's plan for your life, His power, and the person of God.

When people have revelation in their heart that they are going to heaven, you won't have to preach to them about being worldly or entangled in habitual sin. People won't be striving to get a faster car, bigger bank account, or any of those other things. You won't have to preach about service because it will come naturally to them.

If you are living for heaven, you will have peace and contentment in your heart. If you are living for this life you will not have contentment, it will always be just as soon as I get a new job, graduate High school or college, or move here, or get out of this relationship, or into a new relationship. It is a lie because once you get there, you will want more. If you have a heavenly perspective, then you will be comforted with what you have.

This word "know" used here in verse 18 (Gk "eido") comes from the Greek root word: optanomai, op-tan'-om-ahee; which means to gaze (i.e. with wide-open eyes, as at something remarkable; and thus differing from G991, which denotes simply voluntary observation; and from G1492, which expresses merely mechanical, passive or casual vision; and G4648 a watching from a distance).

It means to experience first-hand, jump in there and see and feel for yourself.

Betsy Ten Boom had it right. She and her sister were put into a Nazi concentration camp for helping the Jews escape persecution in Holland during WWII. While in prison she was a faithful witness for Christ even in the midst of the horrible holocaust going on around her. She held Bible studies in the camp and led many people to the Lord. What stands out most about her to me is what a fellow prisoner said about her. She said Betsy talked about heaven, like she had already been there.

We have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light:

(1 Pet 2:9 NKJV) But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

We have been called to His eternal glory:

(1 Pet 5:10 NKJV) But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.

Some callings offer no hope, but for Christians hope (elpis, el-pece)' means; from a prim. elpo (to anticipate, usually with pleasure); expectation, or confidence, The word carries with it the assurance for the future. We know it is coming, and we anticipate it with great pleasure.

The hope that belongs to our calling should be a dynamic force in our lives,

- encouraging us to be pure (1 John 2:28-3:3),
- obedient (Hebrews 13:17),
- and faithful (Luke 12:42-48).

The fact that we shall one day see Christ and be like Him should motivate us to live like Christ today.

The Hope of “His calling” is quite possibly the number one failure of Christians.

How do we get to that point and stay there? We have to keep our focus.

Put this in the forefront of your mind every day, and watch how when the things of the world come-up against you, you will say, "it's not worth it, He is coming back, there isn't much time." I say if Jesus doesn't come back today, then He is coming back tomorrow; and if you ask me tomorrow, I'll tell ya the same thing.

(Hebrews 12:1-2 NKJV) Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

On the sixth day of the ill-fated mission of Apollo 13, the astronauts needed to make a critical course correction. If they failed, they might never return to earth. To conserve power, they shut down the inboard computer that steered the craft. Yet the astronauts needed to conduct a thirty-nine second burn of the main engines. How to steer for that long? Jim Lovell, the commander, determined that if they could keep a fixed point in space in view through their tiny window, they could steer the craft manually. That focal point turned out to be their destination - Earth. For 39 agonizing seconds, Lovell focused on keeping the earth in view. By not losing sight of that reference point, the three astronauts avoided disaster. Hebrews 12:2 reminds us that to finish your life mission successfully, Fix your eyes on Jesus.

Need a little help fixing your eyes on Jesus? Look at the prophetic signs. Folks, the Lord's return is soon. The clock is ready to strike midnight, the trumpet is polished, Jesus is driving the final nails on your mansion, and He is changing into His – “I got family coming over clothes.”

When the hard times come, remember the hope of your calling. Hard times will make you look forward to the hope of your calling.

Pray for yourself and others that daily: That they will know the Hope of their Calling.

1. That they will know God More. (v.17)
2. That they will know the Hope of His Calling (v.18)

Prayer Point 3: That they will know they are His Inheritance (v.18)

Ephesians 1:18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

Notice the structure of this sentence - "the glory of "HIS" inheritance in the saints". Not only do we have an inheritance, verse 14, but Christ considers us (the saints) "HIS" inheritance. An inheritance is something of value and wealth.

God's plan isn't just to get us into heaven, but that we are "His Inheritance", His prize, His joy, His treasure.

(Matt 13:44) Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field

(Matt 13:45) Again the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who when he found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

God considers us His treasures. God has invested in us, and considers us part of His great "riches". See that in verse 18b, the riches of the glory - of His inheritance. You are valuable to God, a treasure, don't treat His treasure like a common item, or worse some piece of junk. When a person sees himself or herself as the treasure of God they are, they will be disgusted with the thought of polluting it with pornography, fornication, drugs, and those types of things.

You young ladies, trading sex for companionship, you are too precious to God for that. You men sticking drugs in your body, you are a pawn in Satan's game.

We have all suffered defeats in our lives, set backs, sometimes the same defeat over and over again, and we begin to lose focus on the big picture, the Great Victory. And when you do fail, and satan comes to tell you that you are a piece of trash and unworthy of God's acceptance. Rebuke him, and say I may have fallen, but failure is only complete if I quit, I am God's treasure, and I will turn from this sin and live unto my Savior like the inheritance I am.

(Exo 19:4-5) You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine,

When she was young, Queen Victoria was shielded from the fact that she would be the next ruling monarch of England lest this knowledge spoil her. When her teacher finally did let her discover for herself that she would one day be Queen of England, Victoria's response was, "Then I will be good!" Her life would be controlled by her position. No matter where she was, Victoria was governed by the fact that she sat on the throne of England.

Know that we are His Treasure should lead the believer into a life of dedication and devotion to the Lord.

Pray for yourself and others that daily: That they will know they are His Inheritance.

1. That they will know God More. (v.17)
2. That they will know the Hope of His Calling (v.18)
3. That they will know they are His Inheritance (v.18)

Prayer Point 4: That they will know the Power Available to them (v.19-23)

Ephesians 1:19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power

Ephesians 1:20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

Ephesians 1:21 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.

Ephesians 1:22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,

Ephesians 1:23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Paul wants you to see what you already have – “born rich”. He wants you to see all the power that is available for you to claim the riches in Christ. He doesn't pray that people will be broken of their lust, anger, profanity, alcohol, etc; instead he prays that they will see the power available to them. When you see all the power available to you, then you will have all that you need to overcome these things in your life.

How much power do we have? As much power, as God used to raise Jesus from the dead, is available for us today.

(Ephesians 1:19 NKJV) and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power

(Ephesians 1:20 NKJV) which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

A sin that continually ensnares us is bondage, it is like a coffin. It robs us of the full joy God intends for us, it impacts our family life and church life.....it takes life away. God says I released Jesus from the tomb, and I can release you from your tomb, whatever it is that is stealing life from you.

Look at the 3-Fold Power of God:

1. Power of the Resurrected Christ. Verse 20
2. Power of the Ascended Christ. Verse 20b
3. Power of the Dominating Christ. Verse 21

(Ephesians 1:20 NKJV) - (Resurrected – R) - which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead

(Ephesians 1:20 NKJV) - (Ascended – A) - and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

(Ephesians 1:21 NKJV) - (Dominating – D) - 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.

Remember these three things in hard times. Resurrected – R, Ascended – A, Dominating – D. RAD

IF you see the power in you, then nothing can overpower you and defeat you. If you are in bondage to anything it is not that you need more power, but that you failed to use the power already available to you.

You don't need a program, you need the person – Jesus Christ

The riches can only be claimed on the strength of His power. Satan is countering always and has greater power than you to keep you from the riches, but not the power that Jesus has to give you all these riches. When the temptation comes, we have to cry out to the Lord, give me the same power to overcome this as you used to raise Jesus from the dead.

Remember, The Christian really operates in two spheres: the human and the divine, the visible and the invisible. Physically, we are on the earth in a human body, but spiritually we are seated with Christ in the heavenly sphere—and it is this heavenly sphere that provides the power and direction for the earthly walk. The President of the United States is not always seated at his desk in the White House, but that executive chair represents the sphere of his life and power. No matter where he is, he is the President, because only he has the privilege of sitting at that desk. Likewise, with the Christian: no matter where he may be on this earth, he is seated in the heavenlies with Jesus Christ, and this is the basis of his life and power

How dominating is this power? God has put all things

(Ephesians 1:22 NKJV) And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,
(Ephesians 1:23 NKJV) which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

How dominating is this power? God has put all things – what kind of things? Meanness, depression, addiction, laziness, gossip, bad relationships, pornography, Satan's dominions and principalities....All things, do you get it? All are under His feet, the person, Jesus Christ.

In Revelation 1:15 it says Jesus' feet are like fine brass. Brass throughout the Scriptures signifies judgement. So everything under Jesus' feet has been judged. Lets see what he has judged and conquered.

***Revelation 1:15 (NKJV)** ¹⁵ His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters;*

***(Psalm 110:1 NKJV)** 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"'.*

Who is Jesus' enemy?

***(1 Corinthians 15:25-26 NKJV)** For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.*

What else has Jesus' conquered?

***(Colossians 2:14-17 NKJV)** having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.*

Jesus has conquered sin and death, and defeated Satan. He is victorious. Also note that it says that Jesus is the Head of the church.

***(Revelation 14:14 NKJV)** Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.*

The crown on Jesus' head I suggest to you is a crown of victory. Under His feet are the spoils of victory, on his head is the crown of victory. Where are we? We are above his feet, not to be judged, and under his head enjoying His victory.

Pray for yourself and others that daily: That they will know the Power Available to them.

Conclusion:

How do you apply all this to your life? Always know this. We are fighting from Victory, not to victory. The battle is over, Jesus won the battle on the cross. Maybe you have failed in that you started to drink again, or you fall into sexual sin - you are not defeated, just a temporary set-back, victory is yours to be claimed over it. Maybe you have been diagnosed with a terminal disease, Jesus has defeated death, you will reign with Him in glory.

Pray in Victory, Lord you have all the power to do all these things in mine and our life:

- 1. That they will know God More. (v.17)**
- 2. That they will know the Hope of His Calling (v.18)**
- 3. That they will know they are His Inheritance (v.18)**
- 4. That they will know the Power Available to them (v.19-23)**

***(Luke 18:1 KJV)** And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;*

Christian don't faint or tire in your prayers. I know at times it seems like they are bouncing off the ceiling and falling to the ground, it is times like that you need to continue through. We think it is hopeless, and then we tire and quit...ultimately, we slowly start to lose our heavenly perspective. The days we live are hard times.

Planes flying into buildings, war, and anthrax – remember to keep the hope of your calling, keep your eyes fixed on Jesus and heaven to come.

1982 the University of Wisconsin Badgers were hosting the Michigan State Spartans. 60,000 fans came to watch the badgers win. It didn't take long for the crowd to see that the Badgers weren't going to win as the Spartans started to rout the Badgers early in the game. The game went from bad to worse for the badgers.

But as the game progress the fans started to get happier and happier. Every now and then they would break out into a loud cheer, even as their team was getting trounced. The coaches were scratching their heads, they said we're playing terrible, yet they continue to cheer louder and louder.

The reason was, because 70 miles away, in Milwaukee, at Brewers stadium, the Milwaukee Brewers were cleaning up on the St Louis Cardinals in Game 3 of the 1982 World Series. So all the people at the Badgers game had their Walkman on, their headphones plugged in, they were watching the baseball score up on the Scoreboard. As they watched the Brewers whoop up on the Cardinals, they were getting happier and happier.

The football game was painful to watch, but the baseball game was a joy. You know the problem with the Christian community today is that we have taken out our earphones, turned off our Walkman, tuned out our radios, and quit looking at the scoreboard. We are no longer tuned into the game that really matters. The game that really matters isn't here in America, our bank accounts, and our jobs. The game that really matters is in heaven, and God has already won it, and He continues to win because He is fighting from victory. Christian we are fighting from victory. The score is getting better and better every day. The game may be painful, but the thing that matters is that our citizenship is in heaven, so let us set our minds on the things that are above.

3P's of the Passage (Title: Precision Prayer)

Person

- Is a Saint
- Is Rich
- Is Heaven Bound
- Is Beautiful

Position

- His Inheritance
- His

Promise

- His Power
- His Wealth

The Word of God in Our Hand Today

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

End of Study