

Ephesians 3 – 11 September 2022

“Entrusted To Reveal Jesus”

Introduction

*Ephesians Outlined

*Chap 1-3 – **The Position of the Christian**

*Chap 4-6 – **The Practice of the Christian**

*Our Position = Not a new job, but a new identity

*Chap 1, we saw we are chosen to receive a great inheritance & be empowered for this life & the next

*Chap 2:1-10 reveals that God saved us b/c He loves us & wants to show His greatness working thru us

*Chap 2:11-22 identifies the joy of bring both Jews & Gentiles into one body under Jesus

*Chap 3 we begin to transition to “how do we live in this new life” by looking at Paul’s example

*Chap 3 Paul talks about his specific mission for God’s glory, but we can use it to dive into our mission

***Today, here’s 3 ways we’re entrusted to reveal Jesus Christ in our life**

#1: Be good stewards of God's Word ministering it to others (Vs 1-7)

Read Vs 1

1. Read Gal 2:20 - Paul's dead to self & only lives to please the One who loves him
2. Read I Cor 9:19 – He's the servant of Christ which means serving others the gospel of Jesus
3. Christians are devoting to serving others, not by chains, but by the freedom Christ has given us

Read Vs 2-4

1. "Dispensation" is stewardship – we've each been given a part of God's work to *govern* over
2. A mystery Paul was specifically given to reveal was that the church is Israel & Gentiles together
 - a. Alluded to in Eph 1:9, given in Eph 2:11-22
 - b. We too have the revealed mysteries of God's Word to give to lost people
 - i. Read I Cor 4:1-2 – Called to be faithful in it
 - ii. Read I Pet 4:10 – All are called to help others

Read Vs 5-6

1. Paul knew his specific calling to minister to the world...do we?
2. Read Rom 1:1 – We're each just a servant but called to a specific task

Read Vs 7

1. The power to work and to use what's God's given us comes from the Holy Spirit Himself
2. Principle or Laws
 - a. Jesus didn't say, "Go try following all Laws"
 - b. He said, "I will put My laws into their hearts & in their minds will I write them"
3. Fishers of Men
 - a. Jesus didn't say, "Now go be fishers of men"
 - b. He said, "Follow Me & I will make you fishers of men"

#2: Boldly enter & embrace your eternal purpose (Vs 8-15)

Read Vs 8

1. When we recognize God's riches He's made available to us, it should humble us (G.R.A.C.E.)
2. It's humbling that we get to be on God's team doing work on His behalf

Read Vs 9

1. We get the joy of interchanging God's truths with the world & seeing some embrace it
2. "Created all things by Jesus Christ" – Center of all is Jesus (creation to redemption to glorification)
 - a. Psm 33:6 – By the Word of the Lord were the heavens made
 - b. John 1:14 – Jesus is the Word of the Lord
 - c. Elohim – Plural God that created (Gen 1:1)

Read Vs 10

1. Seems to be degrees of power in heaven in the angelic realm (principalities – *arche* or archangel)

2. God's wisdom & awesome plan is seen in how He's bringing salvation to mankind
3. I Pet 1:12 – the angels are fascinated with how God's using His H.S. in the church today

Read Vs 11-12

1. Christ's actions brought us access to God
2. Life seems so hap-hazard at time, in a confusing whirlwind, but God has a purpose for it all
 - a. Read Heb 4:14-16 – Jesus has cut the way for us to come & receive the help we need
 - b. Jew or Gentiles, whatever background; by faith in Jesus, we come & receive grace & hope

Read Vs 13-15

1. Paul isn't concerned that he has troubles in bringing them the Gospel...it's worth it
 - a. Knows he can get help from God when needed
 - b. With all the prejudice out there, Paul reminds them that **ALL PEOPLE** are worth bringing to God

#3: Encourage others to burst out-loud b/c of God's great love (Vs 16-21)

Read Vs 16

1. The place we need to be empowered the most is our Spiritual life
2. Ask this of the Lord for each other

Read Vs 17

1. This is deeper than having knowledge of Jesus
2. That Jesus may be on the throne of your heart
 - a. Is He the master passion driving you?
 - b. Have you been established unmovable in your love for Him just as He loves you?

Read Vs 18

1. Comprehend what? How much love He has
2. This's physically impossible, notice it's 4-D
3. Comprehending God's love for us is spiritual

4. David Guzik said, “God’s love is...
 - a. Wide enough to include every person
 - b. Long enough to last for eternity
 - c. Deep enough to reach the worst sinner
 - d. And high enough to take us to heaven!”

Read Vs 19

1. To be filled with all of God can’t happen, but we’re on a journey in that direction
2. Love of Christ passes knowledge in that...
 - a. It’s better than any other knowledge
 - b. It defies logic that God would love sinners

Read Vs 20-21

1. God is able to do big things, so ask for big things that will bring Him praise
2. The essential goal of the church is to bring God praise for His great love wherewith He loves us

Conclusion

We get the joy of showing Jesus to this world. We're entrusted with the saving knowledge of Jesus that needs to be revealed to our friends and family

1. **Be good stewards of God's Word, ministering it to others**
 - a. We have the life-giving mysteries of God
 - b. Let the power of the H.S. lead you
2. **Boldly enter & embrace our eternal purpose**
 - a. Regardless of hazards, Jesus is worth serving
 - b. What shall it profit to gain world & lose soul
3. **Encourage others to burst out-loud b/c of God's great love for them**
 - a. Talk of God's love & grace, see it, believe it
 - b. God's love is the motivation needed to be born again into new life and then live there