

Paul's Prayers – To The Ephesians pt. 3

Prayer - is direct, personal communication and fellowship between a you and God

Many use the acronym **A-C-T-S** to guide their prayers

A – Adoration: praising God for who he is

C – Confession: Admitting wrongs and asking for forgiveness

T – Thanksgiving: Expressing gratitude for blessings

S – Supplication: Asking for help, guidance, or provision

(Ephesians 1:15-23 nlt)

Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God's people everywhere, 16I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, 17asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. 18I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.

19I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power 20that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. 21Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. 22God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. 23And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.

- Paul prays for the Ephesians to understand the incredible greatness of Gods power for us who believe him
- It's the same power that raise Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at Gods right hand
- To understand the greatness of Gods power, you first must believe the testimony of his Son
- 2 things I want to point out about Gods power
 1. It raised Christ from the dead
 2. And it Gave Him honor
- Which means Gods power gives life and position. It exalts
- To understand the power that's for us who believe, the same power that raise Christ from the dead. We must understand the source of that power
- Because its Gods power then there must be 3 sources that make up that power because the completeness of God is God the father, The Son and The Holy Spirit 3 in 1
- Remember that power raised Christ from the DEAD
- Which means the FATHER, The SON & the HOLY SPIRIT each had to be involved raising Christ from the dead

God The Father

(Acts 2:22-24 nlt)

22“People of Israel, listen! God publicly endorsed Jesus the Nazarene by doing powerful miracles, wonders, and signs through him, as you well know. 23But God knew what would happen, and his prearranged plan was carried out when Jesus was betrayed. With the help of lawless Gentiles, you nailed him to a cross and killed him. 24But God released him from the horrors of death and **raised him back to life, for death could not keep him in its grip.**

- According to the scripture, God raise him back to life
- Paul’s introduction in the letter to the Galatians lets us know that God the father raised Jesus from the dead

(Galatians 1:1 nlt)

1This letter is from Paul, an apostle. I was not appointed by any group of people or any human authority, but by Jesus Christ himself and **by God the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.**

- By 2 or 3 witnesses it shall be establish. So, we see it again in the Book of Romans

(Romans 6:4 nlt)

For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead **by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.**

Jesus The Son

(John 2:18-22 nlt)

18But the Jewish leaders demanded, “What are you doing? If God gave you authority to do this, show us a miraculous sign to prove it.”

19 “All right,” **Jesus replied. “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”**

20“What!” they exclaimed. “It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple, and you can rebuild it in three days?” **21**But when Jesus said “this temple,” he meant his own body. **22**After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered he had said this, and they believed both the Scriptures and what Jesus had said.

- Jesus said “I will raise it up” so when he was raised from the dead. The disciples remembered what Jesus said
- Jesus said he has the power to lay down his life and the power to raise it up again

(John 10:17-18 nkjv)

17“Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. **18**No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, **and I have power to take it again.** This command I have received from My Father.”

The Holy Spirit

(Romans 8:9-11 nkjv)

9But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11But if **the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead** dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through **His Spirit** who dwells in you.

- Christ suffered and died for our sins, but he was raised back to life in the Spirit

(1 Peter 3:18 nlt)

18Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, **but he was raised to life in the Spirit.**

- Jesus was shown to be the Son of God when he was raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit

(Romans 1:1-4 nlt)

1This letter is from Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, chosen by God to be an apostle and sent out to preach his Good News. 2God promised this Good News long ago through his prophets in the holy Scriptures. 3The Good News is about his Son. In his earthly life he was born into King David's family line, 4and he was shown to be the Son of God when **he was raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit.** He is Jesus Christ our Lord.

The greatness of Gods power comes from being humble

(1 Peter 5:6 nlt)

6So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor.

(James 4:10 nlt)

10Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.

(Matthew 23:11-12 nlt)

1The greatest among you must be a servant. 12But those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

- We are seated together with Christ Jesus in heavenly places

(Ephesians 2:4-7 nlt)

4But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, 5that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) 6For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. 7So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus.

- The incredible greatness of Gods power is that the Godhead lives in you

(John 17:20-24 nlt)

20 “I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. 21I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.

22 “I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. 23I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. 24Father, I want these whom you have given me to be with me where I am. Then they can see all the glory you gave me because you loved me even before the world began!

- The fullness if God is in you, The Father, The Son & The Holy Spirit
- Power come when the Holy Spirit comes upon you

(Acts 1:8 nlt)

8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”