

TODAY'S TOPIC:

GLORY

IN THE CHURCH!

DOXA:

1. Always in the New Testament: 'A GOOD OPINION'
2. The values, beauties, majesties...ALL GOD'S PERFECTIONS that *EVOKE* a good opinion.
3. The manifestation and revelation of God, Himself. [*Splendor*, *brilliance*, *radiance*': *OUT-SHINING*]
4. All this resulting in

praise, honor and thanksgiving

BACK TO GOD!

CHAPTERS 1-2

Beginning with every spiritual blessing in Christ...

And ending with Jews and Gentiles being merged into

CITIZENS OF ONE NATION

MEMBERS OF ONE FAMILY

BUILT TOGETHER AS ONE HOUSE

CHAP. 3 BEGINS AND ENDS:

"FOR THIS REASON..."

CHAP. 3 ENDS-

WITH A 'GATEWAY' PRAYER...

A DECLARATION OF

GOD'S DESIRE...

A PROMISE OF OUR POTENTIAL

AND... HOW TO GET THERE!!

[WITH FOUR PETITIONS]

THIS GATEWAY PRAYER

LEADS INTO CHAPTER 4

One of the most beautiful descriptions

Of the Body of Christ in Scripture!

IN THIS PRAYER...

EACH PETITION

IS THE CAUSE OF THE FOLLOWING

AND THE RESULT OF THE PRECEDING

Eph 3.14-21 - 14 For this reason [*vs 1*] I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16 [1] that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, 17 [2] that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 [3] may be able to comprehend *with all the saints* what is the width and length and depth and height— 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; [4] *that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

20 Now to Him who is able to do *exceedingly abundantly* above all that we ask or think, ACCORDING TO THE POWER THAT WORKS IN US, 21 TO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH BY CHRIST JESUS to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

****‘CHURCH’ FROM THEORY TO FUNCTION****

THE GIFT OF RIGHTEOUS

not only cancels our

PAST DEBT...

BUT

opens the way to

fulfilling God’s ultimate purpose for us...

IN OUR FUTURE!

BEING FILLED WITH ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD.

THIS SIDE...

OF ETERNITY!!

OUR SPIRITS... *ALREADY ARE!!*

BUT...

HOW ABOUT OUR *HEARTS?*

YOUR MINDS? WILLS? EMOTIONS?

RIGHTEOUSNESS:

The 'ticket' to that

'SOUL-FILLED-WITH-GOD'

'ride'!

CHRIST...

HAVING COMPLETE CONTROL...

TO/IN/ & THROUGH

THE MIND.

THE WILL.

THE EMOTIONS.

'OUT OF' ... 'ACCORDING TO' ...

****MUSK****

THE STRENGTH OF *HIS* DESIRE...

TO...REVEAL... HIMSELF!

HOW GREAT IS HIS DESIRE

FOR SELF-REVELATION?

****HIDING??****

EXCEEDINGLY... ABUNDANTLY... BEYOND

WHAT YOU CAN ASK OR THINK!

MESSAGE BIBLE:

"It's far more than you could ever

imagine or guess or request

in your wildest dreams!"

THERE ARE TRULY...

NO... *LIMITS*...

AS TO *HOW MUCH GOD IS WILLING*

TO REVEAL HIMSELF...

TO EVERY PART OF YOUR SOUL!

AND THE MORE

YOUR SOUL SEES GOD...

IT BECOMES... JUST LIKE WHAT IT SEES...

WITH EVER INCREASING GLORY...

BY.. THE... SPIRIT!

God has built within your soul...

THROUGH HIS POWER...

the ability for your soul to...

To expand... enclose ...and possess...

GOD'S... WHOLE... SELF!

The same self

That the highest heavens can't contain...

YOU CAN!!

A CUP can only hold only A CUP of the ocean.

But if that CUP was given...

[by the power of the Spirit]...

the ability to expand... *without limit??*

What you can't see it doing now...eventually...

IT... WILL HOLD... THE ENTIRE OCEAN!!

HOW MUCH

WILL OUR OWN SOULS...

EXPERIENCE IN *THIS LIFETIME??*

PAUL SAYS:

THAT'S... ACCORDING TO...

"THE POWER

THAT WORKS WITHIN YOU!!"

THIS PRAYER...

THESE 4 PETITIONS...

PROGRESSIVELY ADVANCE...

LEVEL TO LEVEL...

TO DIZZYING HEIGHTS!

IN THIS PRAYER...

PAUL'S BREAKING DOWN...

AND EXAMINING FOR US...

THE INSIDE WORKINGS OF...

"KNOWING JESUS"

"RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD"

WHICH IS THE

NECESSARY FOUNDATION

FOR THE EXISTENCE OF GOD'S OPERATIONAL...

FUNCTIONAL...

CHURCH!

Eph 3.15 - 15 from whom THE *WHOLE FAMILY* IN HEAVEN AND EARTH is named,

THE CHURCH IS ABOUT

RELATIONSHIP...

AT ITS CORE!!

ALL GIFTS AND MINISTRIES...

ARE ONLY SCAFFOLDING.

BUT *LOVE...*

IS THE BUILDING!

THE EGYPTIAN PASSOVER...

was a family event. A family meal.

LORD'S SUPPER

Christ 'BROKE' the bread...

AND SHARED IT...

with his 'family of 12 disciples.'

TODAY...

WE SHARE TOGETHER...

THE BREAD: A COMMON/SHARED *BODY!*

THE CUP: A COMMON/SHARED *BLOOD...*

Jn 1.12-13 - 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, *BUT OF GOD!!*

We're born into natural relationships...

NOT... of our own choosing!

Look around this room!

YOU DIDN'T CHOOSE THESE PEOPLE!

GOD DID!

Eph 3.16 - 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His GLORY, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,

THE RICHES

The wealthy abundance

and great quantity of possessions

OF HIS

GLORY!

I AM ASKING THAT GOD GIVES TO YOU

OUT OF THE ABUNDANCE OF
HIS LAVISH, GENEROUS WILLINGNESS
TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO YOU...

THE FIRST DOMINO??

PAUL'S PRAYER:

ACKNOWLEDGING

OUR DEPENDENCY

ON THE HOLY SPIRIT...

TO GET ANY

OF THE FOLLOWING...DONE!

THAT'S... *THE STARTING POINT!*

Eph 3.16 - 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with
might *THROUGH HIS SPIRIT IN THE INNER MAN,*

'DUNAMIS' WILL MAKE YOU ... 'KRATOS':

Dominating, prevailing, 'upper-hand' strength!

To get your mind from being

self-focused to God-focused...

TAKES... *A MIRACLE!*

****OLD CREATION/NEW CREATION****

7 'days'

'Word' vs Blood

Demonic 'dog-pile'

****IT TOOK A MIRACLE****

To open our hardened hearts to spiritual revelation...

TAKES... *RAW... POWER!!*

BEFORE CHRIST...

WE WERE A SLAVES!
OUR CORE NATURE WAS
SINFUL!
NOW
OUR CORE NATURE
IS JOINED
TO THE SPIRIT OF GOD!!
BUT... EVEN THOUGH...
WE NOW HAVE THE
FREEDOM TO CHOOSE...
BEFORE IT WAS *NAILED TO THE CROSS...*
OUR *OLD NATURE* HAD
PRE-CONDITIONED US...
MAKING US
'5-NATURAL-SENSES-DEPENDENT'...
LEAVING US WITH A
SELF-DEPENDENT... FAITH RESISTANT
'DEFAULT MODE'...
SO...
While we all *CAN...*
CHOOSE RIGHT...
[BECAUSE OF THE BLOOD]...
WE WON'T...
choose right...
Without the help of
THE HOLY SPIRIT!

Eph 3.16-17 - 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through his spirit in the inner man, 17 that CHRIST may DWELL in your HEARTS through FAITH; that you, being ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE,

CHRIST!

A PERSON... IS... IN THERE!!

FULLY CONSCIOUS MENTALLY...

FULLY AWARE EMOTIONALLY...

FULLY CAPABLE!

RIGHT NOW!!

Not a religious truth or belief system!

CHRIST ... DWELLING ...

IN... YOUR...*HEART!*

Gal 4.6 - And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

'HEART':

INCLUDES SPIRIT *AND* SOUL!

SOUL:

ALL YOUR AFFECTIONS, TASTES,

IMAGINATIONS, PASSIONS AND MEMORIES!

YOUR '*INNER MAN*'!

Every part of your

human personality and make-up!

In everything that makes you... *YOU*...

THIS HAPPENS...

BY THE SPIRIT...

THROUGH...

FAITH!!

THAT CHRIST *MAY DWELL...*

WHY DOES PAUL PRAY...

'THAT YOU MIGHT BE

STRENGTHENED WITH MIGHT

BY THE SPIRIT

IN YOUR INNER MAN'?

Because it takes FAITH

IN OUR *HEARTS...*

TO MAKE OUR SOULISH-REGION

'CHRIST-COMPATIBLE'!

WHEN WE WERE BORN-AGAIN...

BY CHRIST'S BLOOD:

Christ moved into the 'Holy of Holies'...

INSIDE OUR SPIRITS... *[WITH FAITH]*

BECAUSE OUR SPIRITS

WERE CREATED ...

CHRIST-COMPATIBLE!!

THEN THEY WERE VACUUM-PACKED

AND SEALED TIGHT

SO THAT THERE WAS NO 'LEAKAGE'!

BUT NOW...

BY THE POWER

OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

Christ wants His 'living space' expanded...

BEYOND THE HOLY OF HOLIES...

INTO...

the Holy Place... and then...

the outer court...

AND FURTHER!

OUR WILL-POWER CAN'T DO THAT!

BUT...

THE POWER OF HOLY SPIRIT...

CAN!!

WHAT MAKES

OUR SOULS

'CHRIST-COMPATIBLE'?

FAITH!!

Eph 3.17 - 17 ...that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith...

ANDREW:

'The key to all victory

in the Christian life is

LEARNING HOW TO

DEPEND ON THE HOLY SPIRIT

FOR STRENGTH!'

LIVING... *DEPENDENT!*

MINISTERING... *DEPENDENT!*

TRUSTING GOD...

WITH... YOUR...

LIFE!

The more we trust and depend *ON HIM...*

The less we trust and depend *ON OURSELVES...*

THIS... DEMANDS

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER!

WHY?

FAITH...

is when we *leave everything* to him.

EXAMPLE:

REGARDING GOD'S PROMISES!

YOU SHOULD PRAY:

"I'LL HOLD ONTO YOUR PROMISES, LORD...

AND YES!

I'LL COOPERATE WITH YOU ALONG THE WAY...

BUT WHAT YOU TOLD ME... YOU WOULD DO...

YOU ... WILL DO!

I'M NOT LETTING THOSE THINGS

COME BACK ON ME

TO GET THEM DONE!

UNBELIEF...

is when we take things back on ourselves!

WHEN WE '*LEAVE THINGS ON HIM*'...

HE *TAKES THEM!!*

AND HIS INFLUENCE IN OUR SOULS...*SPREADS!*

WHEN WE *TAKE THINGS BACK*...

HE *LETS THEM GO!*

AND HIS INFLUENCE IN OUR SOULS...*STOPS!*

FAITH...

IS WHEN WE FINALLY

TRUST JESUS...

MORE...THAN OURSELVES!

[THAT'S WHY IT'S

CLOSELY ALIGNED WITH HUMILITY]

HAVE FAITH?

YOU HAVE PEACE

BECAUSE IT'S ON HIM, NOT YOU!

BUT...

IF YOU HAVE *NO PEACE??!*

EVERYTHING'S BACK ON YOU!

BY THE HOLY SPIRIT...

WE SEE JESUS!

WHEN WE SEE JESUS...

WE TRUST HIM!

AND WHEN WE TRUST HIM...

WE LEAVE EVERYTHING TO HIM!

SPIRIT *REVEALS* HIM...

YOU *SEE* HIM...

YOU *TRUST HIM*...

AND YOU WILL RISE...

HIGHER AND HIGHER...

ABOVE YOUR PROBLEMS AND CIRCUMSTANCES...

UNTIL YOUR WHOLE WORLD

DISAPPEARS...

AND THERE'S NOTHING ELSE LEFT...

BUT YOU AND JESUS!

UNTIL HE'S MORE

REAL TO YOU THAN ANY EARTHLY PERSON!

UNTIL IT'S NO LONGER

YOU LIVING YOUR LIFE!

IT'S CHRIST LIVING IT... THROUGH YOU!!

UNTIL YOU CAN SAY...

"WHO CARES WHAT WENT WRONG?

WHAT I LOST... OR STILL MIGHT LOSE!

WHOEVER MIGHT HAVE LEFT ME...

ABANDONED ME...

OR BETRAYED ME!

CHRIST... IS WITH ME!!!

AND HE...

WILL OVERCOME MY WORLD

FOR ME!!!

QUESTION... *[FAITH PEOPLE]!!*

You have faith for your marriage!

Ministry! Money! *[Cottage by the lake]*

You imagine it being done!

You can see the vision!

THE BLIND SEEING! THE LAME WALKING!

BUT...

CAN YOU SEE YOURSELF...

KNOWING JESUS...

LIKE... JESUS KNEW THE FATHER?

LIKE ...PAUL KNEW CHRIST?

OR...

*YOU SEEING AND HEARING JESUS
AS CLEARLY AS THE APOSTLE JOHN DID
WHILE WRITING THE BOOK OF REVELATION*

ON THE ISLE OF PATMOS?

CAN YOU SEE THAT?

CAN YOU HAVE THE FAITH...

TO IMAGINE THAT?

AND WHEN SEEING HIM...

WE BECOME...

ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE...

WHEN CHRIST APPEARS...

WE SEE HIM AT WORK IN OUR SOULS...

HIS LOVE BECOMES OBVIOUS!

A LOVE THAT IS... FIRMLY FIXED!

NOTICE:

This 'dwelling' of Christ

is not a mere visit...

Or a lofty encounter with Him.

BUT A KIND OF LOVE

THAT GROWS ROOTS...AND...

STAYS!

Eph 3.18 - 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height—

WITH ALL THE SAINTS

This 'Gateway Prayer' ... starts individually...

but now Paul's beginning

to bring the church into it!

'KNOWING THE DIMENSIONS

OF CHRIST'S LOVE'

IS A TEAM SPORT!!

'WITH ALL THE SAINTS'!

EVERYBODY AT CROSSOVER

Will begin to experience

Christ's multi-faceted love...

TOGETHER!!

HOW WIDE IS CHRIST'S LOVE?

Wide enough to embrace all humanity.

HOW LONG IS IT?

It endures forever!

HOW DEEP?

As deep as hell itself!

HOW HIGH?

As high as the right hand of God!

NOT INFORMATION...

IN THE HEAD!

BUT EXPERIENCE

IN THE HEART!

Some people have

their 'library of love-scriptures'

In perfect order...

IN THEIR HEAD...

Without having one scrap of love...

IN THEIR HEART!!

CHRIST'S LOVE IS NOT A DOCTRINE!

IT'S...A PERSON!

IT'S...

JESUS, HIMSELF!!

Eph 3.19 - 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

TO KNOW... *WHAT PASSES KNOWLEDGE.*

THE PARADOX HERE... *IS INTENTIONAL.*

To say we know Christ's love...

without experiencing Christ's love...

Is like being born blind...

And saying you know

what a sunset looks like!

WE ONLY KNOW CHRIST'S LOVE...

TO - THE - DEGREE

WE EXPERIENCE CHRIST'S LOVE!

EXPERIENCING CHRIST'S LOVE...

IS...

TRUE KNOWLEDGE!!

SO...

1. *SPEAK TO THE FATHER...*

WHO IS THE SOURCE

OF ALL RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING

2. *APPROACH HIM ON THE BASIS OF HIS OWN STRONG DESIRE*

TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO YOU!

3. *ASK FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER TO FILL YOUR SOUL WITH MIGHT... SO THAT YOU CAN TRUST
JESUS WITH EVERYTHING!*

4. *CHRIST WILL*

DWELL IN YOUR HEART ...

AS YOU TRUST...

...AS THE SPIRIT EMPOWERS!

5. *YOU WILL BECOME*

ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE.

6. *TOGETHER WITH*

EVERYBODY ELSE AT CROSSOVER... YOU WILL BEGIN TO

KNOW HIS LOVE

IN ALL ITS DIMENSIONS.

7. *YOU WILL KNOW HIS LOVE... BECAUSE*

YOU'RE EXPERIENCING HIS LOVE!