

# From Darkness To Light

Ephesians 1:15-23 - February 26<sup>th</sup>

Anne Sullivan, Helen Keller's teacher, after teaching her the names of physical objects, tapped out the symbols for the name "God." Helen's response was, thank you... I knew something of God but it was wordless.

**Ephesians 1:15-23**

*Give thanks for you... don't lose the wonder of Salvation.*

**Who are you encouraged by and thankful TO the Lord for?**

**Hearing of their faith catapulted a prayer... of thankfulness and intercession.**

Come alongside those in the faith, don't drop or ignore or assume they will be good.

The last study was really just one sentence.

**BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!**

This next portion... 169 words, is one long run-on sentence.

When praying for the church in Ephesus, there were 4 things that Paul prayed for.

**Prayed for... what do you mean.**

Beware of tradition... 5 times per day or certain prayers for certain situations.

Do you mean traditionally and with a hollow mindset, some spiritual jargon hoping that it might help... kind of like rubbing a **rabbit's foot**. Or do you mean that you petitioned the eternal King of all creation and Salvation asking Him to step into someone's life and bring divine intervention? To bring aid so powerful that demons couldn't stop it, critique couldn't quench it, and trials couldn't shake it.

**To the Father**

**Like parents for kids:** Hoping the best, wanting the best, wishing the best - pray for the best!

***Rather than take away the temptation or addiction, Lord please open their understanding of it and give them power over it.***

**Paul's Primary Prayer (15-17)**

*Give yourself as much to prayer as you do to the reading of Scripture.*

**Give you** the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of HIM. (17)

**Wisdom:** broad and full of intelligence

*"Knowledge will always test well but it is wisdom that makes one live well."*

(bragged on by Jesus) Solomon prayed for wisdom, wisdom of God not wisdom of man

**Matthew 10:16** "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be **wise** as serpents and harmless as doves. *(not just right but wise)*

**Pray that people would know Him and His will for the moment they are living in.**

**Jude 1:22-23** And on some have compassion, making a distinction; but others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

**When there is a wanting in your soul... test it against the will of the Lord.**

*Lord, where do you want me? If I wanted you somewhere else, don't you think you'd be there?*

HIS WISDOM

**1 Corinthians 1:25** Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

WISDOM IN WHO GOD IS...

**Colossians 2:3** *in whom* are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

**Proverbs 9:10** "The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding.

**Rubik's Cube – there is an algorithm**

Morality can't save you

Tranquility can't fix you

It is Jesus who transforms you and gives you new life.

**The eyes of your understanding being enlightened (19a)**

**Enlightened:** to illuminate what was dark, to bring to the light

**Understanding:** The heart, the inner man, emotions, mind, and will.

**Eyes: Your chakra.** This doctor spoke as if Jesus had arrived to some guru level & achieved some sort of benevolent healing status.

(I've got the B.I.B.L.E. yes that's the book for me)

Not through crystals

Not through drugs

Through God the Holy Spirit teaching & pulling off the darkness like a cloak

**The eyes of your understanding...**

How much can you see if your eyes are closed? Zero... living in darkness. You would know that you tripped, you would know that you stumbled, but you wouldn't see it coming and you wouldn't know why it happened. Confusion and eventually depression and desperation. – Why depression is like quicksand and same with gender identity.

**2 Corinthians 4:3-4** But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

**1 Corinthians 6:9-11 Veiled by**

- **Sexual endeavors** (straight or homosexual)
- **Idolaters** (systems of worship and belief)
- **Thieves & covetousness** – taking what you want through trickery and dishonesty and wanting what you cannot have.
- **Drunkenness**
- **Reviler**: one who speaks abusively or contemptuously against another
- **Extortioner**, white collar crimes...

11. **And such** were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the **Spirit** of our God.

The part of you, your understanding, would not be blind any longer but that you would come to an understanding of who God is and see more and more clearly as you move along through life. **BABY EYES... continued clarity for the Ephesian believers.**

Paul's own testimony... once you see the Lord, everything will be done. (scales)

Being close enough to be encouraged by what God is doing in the lives of others.

Being committed to praying for people... not hopeful for them but prayerful over them.