

# Hope, Riches, & Power

Ephesians 1:19-23 - March 12, 2023

Review:

Paul didn't have high hopes, didn't have kind wishes... Paul prayed for THEM!

Spirit and revelation of **HIM**

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

*The eyes of your understanding being enlightened* (The inner part of you)

Like a baby's eyes becoming more clear every day

There is the excitement that we have... the growing revelation of who God is.

Don't get me wrong... there is always the fellowship of His suffering but there is an exciting revelation

## Three areas of growing revelation or realization

Hope of His calling

Riches of His inheritance

His Power toward us

**HOPE** That you would know what is the hope of His calling

**When the Bible talks about hope, what is it talking about?**

**Hope:** joyful and confident expectation

*Of His calling... calling to be HIS. (adoption)*

(Not sending out positive vibes into the universe)(Not being an optimist)

Being HIS brings real true, living & breathing, hope! And tomorrow, MORE

**1 Peter 1:3-4** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **to an inheritance** incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, **(lasting)**

**Idaho NEEDS Hope:** most moralistic, and Mormonistic

- Ranked between 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> highest in the nation for the rate of suicide.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death for ages 10-44
- Not that they want to die, they can't imagine continuing to live (Hopelessness)

**Takes time to realize it... we get to know Him and His hope more every day.**

**Romans 12:11-12** not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; **rejoicing in hope**, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;

*Not rejoicing in wishful thinking but in the fact that God is so steadfast and faithful that WE can count on Him and look forward into eternity with a joyful and jubilant expectation.*

## Trust in God's sovereignty vs. rest in God's sovereignty

### Acts 2:26

The refore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope.

- OR... the joyful, confident expectation I have in the Lord gives me rest.  
*Weary and heavy laden, come to Me and I will give you rest for your soul.*

**My hope is** built on nothing less – than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus name. – On Christ the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;

## RICHES What are the riches of the glory (splendor) of His inheritance in the saints

### Riches: A plentiful abundance

- Do we just **grumble about the government...** stuck in Rome with the Jews.
- Freed from slavery and Israel **wine about the wilderness.**
- The promised land was to come and then when they got there they wouldn't take it – too many giants in the land. (*Problems with God's Promise*)

### There are many things to be rich in. (plentiful abundance)

- Knowledge
- Food (preppers)
- Finances
- Friends/Family

**Matthew 13:22** "Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful."

***Inheritance*** – *are the believers under 40 inheriting a vibrant example of faith?*  
***Dear God, keep me from becoming an old wineskin and discouraging the very steps of faith you asked me to take.***

- **Invincible until the Lord calls you home (can't die & can't starve)**
  - My wife took prostitutes to church
  - Took my kids to do homeless ministry in the rain
  - If you are in pursuit of him, foolishness to those who are perishing. (Doesn't it seem like a waste to buy a Ferrari? Don't worry... they don't know how rich you are.)

***"To equipped to be whipped."***

***"To blessed to be stressed,***

***"To anointed to be disappointed"***

- **Inheritance is what you are born into... rich family vs. a poor family.**  
I was born into a VERY wealthy family.

## **What we have from the Lord...**

The greatest thing we may have IS the Lord.

Faith in Christ, He Himself is the greatest possession you will ever have.

### **Eph 2... God is RICH in mercy!**

When we fall short...

Rather than flinching in fear or cowering in shame...

We look up with hope. He is gracious and merciful.

## **He has it all handled**

Apply "**plentiful abundance**" to wisdom & to knowledge.

**Romans 11:33** Oh, the depth of the riches both of the *wisdom* and *knowledge* of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out!

## **POWER** What is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe

According to the working of His mighty power

**HIS POWER:** strength and ability, the might by which miracles are done.

**Power: 120x in the New Testament**

It is a power God intends for us to know.

**Matthew 22:29** Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the *power* of God.

The power is HIS

**Matthew 6:13** And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## **HIS WORKING or HIS METHOD**

**Acts 1:8** "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

**John 14:12** "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

(Paul had to tear his clothing and show them that he was just a man) Acts 14:4-5

The greatest shortage today is not eggs, energy, or ethics... it is powerless Christians who are sitting in knowledge rather than being filled with the Spirit and walking by faith.

**Not just in you, not just through you... but towards you (Eph 1:19)**

**Ephesians 1:19-23**

Raise Christ from the dead

And seated Him at the right hand in the heavenly places

**Principalities & powers** (high or highest ranking officials)

**Seated at the right hand:** a position that was or is the most highly distinguished and honored place of authority.

**So all these principalities and powers of darkness... what about them?**

**FAR above:** not just one rank up, one position higher, infinitely greater or higher than all.

It's not that He is at the top of some org chart... High is high above the entire order of creation.

**(Reveals Jesus not only as Savior but as sovereign ruler of all things seen and unseen, tangible and intangible, physical and spiritual.)**

**Raise Christ from the dead** And that power is being worked out towards YOU!

**Albert Barnes:** It is impossible to conceive of a more direct exertion of power than in raising up the dead. (And there is no more striking example of what it means to go from unforgiven to forgiven.)

**It was imparting life** to a cold and mangled frame. It was to open again the arteries and veins, and teach the heart to beat and the lungs to heave. **It was to diffuse** vital warmth through the ridged muscles, and to communicate to the body the active functions of life.

TOWARDS YOU (19)

**1 Corinthians 6:14** And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

**Romans 8:11** But 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.

THE QUESTION IS NEVER, **CAN** GOD DO SOMETHING...

THE QUESTION IS ALWAYS, **WHAT** DOES GOD WANT TO DO.

*When our heavenly Father looked at Christ and with all Power raised Him from the dead and seated Him on the throne of glory far above all powers.... He then turns to you and with that same power has a plan and purpose for your life... concluding with your eternal redemption.*

**Head over all things... even the church**

Head of: finances, vacations, romance, hobbies, habits, etc.

The church is His body and the fullness of His glory.

Sunset, space, humanity and then the salvation of humanity... the grandest display.