

The background is a detailed landscape painting of Ephesus, Turkey, at sunset. In the foreground on the left, the dark, silhouetted ruins of the Temple of the Virgin Mary are visible, with its iconic archway framing the view. Below the temple, the city of Ephesus is depicted with its characteristic white buildings and a prominent church spire. The sky is filled with soft, golden light from the setting sun, with wispy clouds catching the light. The overall mood is serene and historical.

# EPHESIANS

WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST



# “In Christ”

- Called; holy; blameless; adopted; redeemed; inheritance; sealed
- Above all: *arche; exousia; dunamis; onoma*
- BUT GOD! Raised, seated Created for good works; for reconciliation & peace
- Access by the HS; built into His *naos*
- For all ages, His wisdom in the church to the *arche & exousia* in the heavenlies



# Eternal Purpose - 3:11

- “Purpose of the ages”
- Carried out in Christ:
  - Crucifixion and resurrection
  - Life changes in us (in heavenlies and here)
- Looks like:
  - Boldness & Confidence in entering...
  - Ep 2:18; Jn 14:6; Ro 5:2; He 4:14ff; 10:19ff



# Faith activated...

- “through faith in Him”

- Did it cost anything to do this?

- Losing heart...?

- Lk 18:1ff; 2Co 4:1,16; Gal 6:9; Col 3:21; Heb 12:3; 2 Th 3:13

- Weary, exhausted, spiritless...

- Do not give in/give up to evil



# Persecutions (13)

- (*thilipsis*) – tribulations
  - They are a part of our walk... not God's displeasure, failure or inability
  - “on your behalf” – suffering for the Word...
  - “for your glory?” – those willing to suffer so we can hear the truth is called LOVE!



# “For this reason”

- 1:15; 3:1; now 3:14 – *dia*, cause, account
- To prevent the “lost heart”:
  - Bow the knee, ‘the Father’ (17)
  - From which we ALL get our name
  - One family, one set of children (ch 4)
- Five petitions, an awesome prayer!
  - Source? Riches of His glory... (16)



# Paul's prayer (16-19)

1. with power strengthened (*krataioo*) 4x

Thru HIS Spirit – an important means  
–in the “inner man” 2Co 4:16; Ro 7:22

2. Christ “dwells” in our hearts Jn 14:23

–faith is the means by which this happens

–What must be done in our hearts to make  
Jesus feel at home??? (Rev. 3:20?)



# Paul's prayer (16-19)

## 3. Rooted and grounded in love (Col 2:7)

- Founded on strong bedrock (Mt 7:24ff)

- HIS love, not yours!

- How many times has love...

- This unites us to God and with others

- Note the unity focus of this prayer...



# Paul's prayer (16-19)

4. Comprehend with all the saints
  - *exischuo* – 1x full ability, strength
  - Mind fully informed – about HIS LOVE
  - breadth, width – all encompassing
  - heights and depths – we are seated...  
Also to the times of life – highs/low
  - A goal for ALL, not just a select few



# Paul's prayer (16-19)

## 5. Know the love of Christ

- Surpasses (excelling past) knowledge
- filled to all the fullness of God – what a supreme thought... 1:23; Jn 1:16; 14
- Our only goal now and in eternity
- full of God; full of HIS fullness; (flooded)
- Rom 8:29ff