

# ***“Raised and Seated with Christ”***

April 9, 2023

## **INTRODUCTION**

Hope. Riches. Power. This is how Paul describes our salvation. The question is, “Do we truly understand what that means?”

### **A Prayer for Wisdom and Revelation (1:15-19a)**

<sup>15</sup> *For this reason...*

*...ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, <sup>16</sup> I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup> I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.*

<sup>18</sup> *I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the HOPE to which he has called you, the RICHES of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, <sup>19</sup> and his incomparably great POWER for us who believe (emphasis mine).*

### **The Exalted Christ (Ephesians 1:19b-23)**

*That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup> he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything...*

Related Passages: 1 Corinthians 15:3-8

*...for the CHURCH, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way (emphasis mine).*

## **You Were Dead in Your Sins (2:1-3)**

*As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup> All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.*

## **You Were Raised to New Life (Ephesians 2:4-6a)**

*<sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup> And God raised us up with Christ*

## **You Were Seated with Christ (Ephesians 2:6b-7)**

*...and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.*

Related passage: Colossians 3:1-4

## **Questions for Personal Reflection/Group Discussion**

- 1.) What does it mean that your spirit--the REAL you--is fully alive in Christ?
- 2.) Where is Christ seated? If you are seated with Christ, then what does that mean for you?
- 3.) How does it impact you to know that your spirit is "right here and right now"--not "up there and someday"--is seated with Christ in the spiritual realms?
- 4.) Review Colossians 3:1-4. In practical terms, what might it look like for you to set your heart and mind on things above and not on earthly things this week?