

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 05 Sep Eph 1:1-14 God's Plan is Eternal
- 2) **12 Sep Eph 1:15-23 God's Plan Involves Power**
- 3) 19 Sept Eph 2:1-10 God's Power Changes People
- 4) 26 Sep Eph 2:11-22 God's Power Changes Relationships
- 5) 03 Oct Eph 3:1-13 God's Power Comes by Grace
- 6) 10 Oct Eph 3:14-21 God's Power Provides Strength
- 7) 17 Oct Eph 4:1-16 Being in Step
- 8) 24 Oct Eph 4:17-32 Being Different
- 9) 31 Oct Eph 5:1-14 Being Pure
- 10) 07 Nov Eph 5:15-21 Being Careful
- 11) 14 Nov Eph 5:22-33 Being Married
- 12) 21 Nov Eph 6:1-9 Being Respectful
- 13) 28 Nov Eph 6:10-24 Being Prepared

INTRODUCTION

- We are only one generation away from apostasy. The Ephesians were noted for their love of God and for their love of one another. Yet 30 years later John received word from God that the Ephesians left their first love Rev 2:4
- Even Paul's prayer for them to have a deepened awareness of God did not last into the next generation
- How can we prevent slipping away from our first love of Christ and for His saints?

Passage	Comments
1:21-23	Christ is above everything – past, present, future <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So why do we have EVIL? • Simple answer – Satan has temporary rule of the Earth – Prince of the Power of the Air Eph 2:2 • Christ is the Creator of everything <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ John 1:1-3, Col 1:16, Eph 3:9, Heb 1:1-3 • Christ died to save the epitome of His Creation - MAN

SUPPORTING PASSAGES:

Ps 8:6 You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet,
 Ecc 7:4 The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.
 Luke 24:32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS:

- Our prayers for ourselves and others often involve asking for a bigger bank account, more possessions, better health
- Consider praying for more spiritual enlightenment for yourself and others – which often comes through trials and tribulation

NEXT WEEK: Ephesians 2:1-10. By grace are we saved, by faith; it is a gift of God; not of works; and the impact of the Prince of the Power of the Air

Passage	Comments
Eph 1:15	Ephesians were noted for their faith in God and for their love of the saints <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How would this be evident in a body of believers? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Works of love – taking care of widows/orphans ♦ Being doers and not hearers only of God's word
1:16	Paul Prays for his Ephesian brothers & sisters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul did not cease giving thanks for them. • How do we do this? Consider how prayers were conducted in the Book of Psalms • Ps 55:17. Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice
1:17	Paul prayed specifically for spiritual enlightenment, but not for physical, mental, emotional comfort <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "May God give you a spirit of wisdom" to know God – In other words, grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ 2 Peter 3:18 • May God give you revelation in the knowledge of Jesus Christ- In other words, may God become real and personal to you Luke 24:32
1:18	More Specific Prayer Request for Enlightenment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "May the eyes of your heart (innermost being) be enlightened..." → RESULT → Know His calling & riches of His inheritance in the saints • Again, Paul did not pray for their physical health and wealth, but for their spiritual health & wealth • This means he actually prayed for more trials and tribulations (e.g. ask for patience)Ecc 7:4
1:19-20	Surpassing Greatness of His Power to Us <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How little we understand the Power of God for our lives – which only comes to those who diligently pray • This power is not in showy wonders, but in the transformation of lives beginning with SELF • When people came to Jesus looking for more free food, He basically said 'You don't get it' – you need to focus on spiritual food which endures to eternal life'John 6:25-27

