

Ephesians Bible Study Notes

Tyrannus Korean Baptist Church EM – Arlington Heights, IL

02/19/2021

Ephesians 3:14-21

Recap – Literary Context

What was Chapter 1 about?

- Spiritual blessings in Christ
 - o Adoption as children through Jesus Christ (v.5)
 - o Redemption through his blood, forgiveness of sins (v.7)
 - o Obtained an inheritance (v.11)
 - o Sealed with the Holy Spirit (v.13)
- Prayer of Paul
 - o He does not stop giving thanks (v.16) and does not stop praying for them.
 - Because of their faith in Jesus and their love for the saints (v.15)
 - o He prays for God to give them the Holy Spirit (v.17), who will
 - Open the eyes of their heart (v.18) to understand
 - the hope (v.18)
 - the riches (v.18) of his glorious inheritance
 - the greatness of his power (v.19)
 - o This same power that was in work in Christ.
 - Who is far above all rule, authority, power, and dominion.
 - Who has been...
 - given all things under his feet.
 - become the head of the church
 - o church, who is the body of Christ.

What was Chapter 2:1-10 about?

- Spiritual condition apart from Jesus Christ (v.1-3)
 - o We are dead in our transgressions
- Spiritual condition in Jesus Christ (v.4-10)
 - o Made alive in Jesus Christ

What was Chapter 2:11-22 about?

- Before the cross
 - o Foreigners
- Through the cross
 - o Unites us (Jews and Gentiles) as one people/humanity to God.
 - o Fellow heirs

- Temple – dwelling place
 - Worship.

What was Chapter 3:1-13 about?

- The Message (v.1-6)
 - Administration of God’s grace – to make the known the mystery (this is known by revelation)
 - Mystery of Christ is...
 - Gentiles are fellow heirs through Jesus Christ
- The Messenger (v.7-13)
 - Paul has been given the gift of God’s grace/privilege to be the minister of this mystery.
 - The mystery that was hidden through all ages to all people. (v.9)
 - But he can preach to everyone. (v.9)
 - This mystery that reveals the manifold wisdom of God in the church. (v.10)
 - Through Jesus Christ, which was his eternal purpose. (v.11)

Part 1 – Paul’s Petition

- **What is “for this reason” referring to (v.14)?
- _____
- What does Paul do in response to God’s work of salvation (v.14)? _____
- Who is the Father (v.14)? _____
 - From the Father, every family in heaven and on earth is named.
 - Ref. Genesis 12:1-3
 - 1 Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”
- What is the content of Paul’s petition (v.16, 18-19)?
 - 1) That God may grant you to be _____ through his Spirit in their inner being. (v.16)
 - κραταιόω – to become strong
 - δυναμικ – power/ability
 - 2) that you may _____ (v.18)
 - ισχύω – to be strong/to have power
 - 3) that you may be _____ with all the fullness of God. (v.19)
- What does God’s power enable (v.16-17a)?
 - Christ may _____ your hearts through faith in love, being firmly rooted and established.
 - Indwelling of Christ
- What else does God’s power enable (v.17b-18)?
 - A) to comprehend with all the saints _____ and _____ and _____ and _____ of the love of Christ **AND ALSO**
 - B) to know the _____ love of Christ.

- **The love of Christ is not comprehensible through education or human knowledge – it is comprehensible through God’s power.

Part 2 – Paul’s Praise

- What phrase does Paul use to describe God (v.20)?
 - him who is _____ to do _____ than we _____ or _____.
- In light of what we read in Chapters 1-3, why do you think Paul describes God like this?
 - _____
 - God has written a perfect story of salvation and has achieved a perfect work of salvation through Jesus Christ.
 - **The plan of God’s salvation and the work of God’s salvation is not something the human mind could come up with or human strength could accomplish.
- Paul says, “to him be glory *in the church* and *in Christ Jesus..*” (v.21). Why?
 - **Hint: 3:8-10.
 - _____
 - _____

Main Idea

Because of all of God’s wonderful spiritual blessing offered to all people, both Jews and Gentiles, through Jesus Christ, Paul prays for all of God’s people for the knowledge of the love of Christ and for the fullness of God. Because of all of God’s wonderful work, Paul praises for God’s glory in the church and in Christ Jesus.

Applications for Life and Faith

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.