

Confidence From a Proper Biblical Perspective:

Do I Need To Ask For More or Do I Simply
Need to Apply What I Already Have in Jesus?

Lesson 9: Ephesians 1:15-23

Handout: Sunday, April 22, 2007

Introductory Question:

Do I need to ask God for more after becoming a Christian to live a fruitful and victorious life or do I simply need to inform myself about everything I already received at the point of salvation and in faith apply it?

Let's Read: **Eph 1:15-23**

I. Paul gives God thanks for their genuine faith as evidenced by 2 spiritual truths:

1. **Faith in the _____ Jesus:** *having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you* (15).
 - a. faith in Jesus as one's Savior must include submission to Jesus as Lord.
 - b. Jesus is called Lord 2x's by Paul (15, 17)
2. **Love for all believers:** *and your love for all the saints* (15)
 - a. My love for Jesus is only as real as my love for the least of my fellow believers: (Matthew 25:40; 1 John 3:14-18)
 - b. **LOVE** = sacrificial & selfless _____ which results in generous _____ of kindness

Paul's Main Point: Genuine faith cannot exist without:

1. _____ to Christ's authority as Lord
2. sacrificial and selfless love for _____ believers

Question: How do genuine believers, like the Ephesians, live a life which is full of:

1. the fruit of the Spirit in their own life
2. victory over temptation
3. sacrificial love for other believers & unbelievers
4. power to take bold steps of obedience for Christ

II. Paul prays that God would give them the attitude and knowledge to know that:

1. Jesus is the only source for all they _____ .
2. God's resources are _____ available. (Ephesians 1:17-18; 2 Peter 1:3; Colossians 2:9-10)
3. **This passage says 3 things are already theirs in Christ:**
 - a. _____ of their calling (*eternal _____ with Christ*)
 - b. riches of the glory of His _____ .
 - c. the _____ God used to raise Christ from the dead, place Him @ His right hand, put Him in authority over all dominion in the universe and as the head of the church ... is available to them _____ . (Rom 8:11)

Question What specifically are the "riches of our inheritance" that God has already blessed us with @ the point of salvation such that we would:

1. have our eyes enlightened
2. live with hope and power today b/c we are already spiritually wealthy.

III. Here is the list of 33 things that God blesses each of us with at the point of salvation