

Heaven's Riches – Ephesians

Week Three – Chapter Three

Ephesians 3:1-12 –

- Why was Paul in prison (1)?
- How did Paul receive insight into the mystery of Christ (3)?

Mystery. Greek word *Musterion*. A hidden thing, secret; a spiritual truth that was previously hidden and not revealed until God chose to _____ it through one of His servants.

- When was the mystery of Christ disclosed (5)?
- How did Paul describe the mystery (6)?
- How was Paul enabled to be a minister of grace (7)?
- What was Paul's attitude to his call (8)?
- What was the message entrusted to him to share (8)?
- What was Father God's timetable for revealing this mystery (5, 9)?
- What do we learn about grace (7-9)?
- How was Father God's wisdom communicated (10-11)?
- What purpose does Father God have for the church (12)?

Freedom is a legal right freedom to speak frankly or to stand without _____, especially before a ruler. Some translations use boldness.

- How do you think Gentile believers responded to Paul's explanation of the mystery of Christ?
- What gives you confidence and freedom in approaching Father God? Can anything separate you from Him?

Ephesians 3:13-21 –

- What was the reason for Paul's prayer for his readers (1, 13)?

Discouraged (13). To become tired, lazy, despondent, and desperate, to lose strength or heart.

- When Paul prayed, what posture did he assume (14)?
- To whom is God the Father (14-15)?

- Paul prays three specific areas of the riches of Christ to be realized in the lives of the Ephesians:
 - _____ with Spiritual _____ – supernatural _____ of His divine _____ and explosive _____ (16)
 - _____ of Christ Indwelling _____ – by constantly using your _____, His _____ will be the source and root of your life, a secure foundation (17)
 - _____ to Discover and Experience the Magnitude of His Astonishing _____ – in all its dimensions (18)
 - His _____ for you is deeply intimate and far reaching
 - His _____ is enduring and inclusive.
 - His _____ for you is endless and beyond measurement
 - His _____ for you is beyond academic knowledge
 - He pours His extravagant _____ into you until you are filled to overflowing with the fullness of God!

Power (16). *Dunamis*; Specifically refers to miraculous power; the strength, the mighty work, the ability, the capability, the achieving power, the _____ behind the miraculous power of God.

Filled (19). Means pressed down to over flowing, completely fill a vessel, super abundantly with something, intoxicate, saturate, entirely full. Used four times in Ephesians: 1:23 3:19; 4:10; 5:18.

Fullness (19). Noun derivative of filled and means abundance, state of abundance, completeness, wholeness.

- In case the riches of Christ Paul has just prayed for believers to realize seem unfathomable, he gives them a great reminder in the conclusion of his prayer. What does he remind them will happen (20)?
- Do you know how loved you are? What is your current understanding of Father God, Jesus, and Holy Spirit's love for you?
- How would you pray Paul's prayer in your own words?

Going Deeper This Week: Spend some extended time with Father God, Jesus and Holy Spirit reviewing what you learned this week in Ephesians 3. Ask Him to speak to you and record in your journal what you sense Him showing, saying, and highlighting to your heart. Dialogue with Him through these questions as well:

- Looking at Paul's prayers in Ephesians 1 and 3, what does he want you to know about the power of Holy Spirit? Which elements of these prayers would you like to experience in your life right now? How does Jesus want to do more than you can request, dream or imagine? Talk to Him about that.
- Reflecting over your position and identity in Christ described in chapter 1-3, how does knowing these truths minister to you? What impact will that have on your life from this day forward? Complete Identity/Riches chart.
- Take a few minutes each day this week to close your eyes, sit back and fellowship with Him in your heart. Thank Father God for how He sees you because of Jesus. Thank Him for the truth of how you need to see yourself and make any adjustments to renew your mind to His truth. Let Him speak into your heart the words of love and encouragement you need to hear each day. Allow Him to shower you in His delight!

