

THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Ephesians 1:15-23

I. **THANKSGIVING** (15-16a; III Jn v. 4)

A. **Faith in Jesus** (Act 4:12)—the true gospel

B. **Love for All the Saints** (Jn 13:35; 1 Jn 3:14 & 4:20-21; Mat 10:42)

1. **All the saints**—not just the ones you naturally like
2. **Because they are saints**—they belong to Jesus

II. **PRAYER** (16b-20a)

A. **Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation** (Jn 14:26)—the Holy Spirit helping our spirits to use reason to understand what God has revealed

1. **Wisdom**—sanctified reason
2. **Revelation**—what God has supernaturally revealed

B. **Enlightened Eyes of the Heart**

1. **Eyes** (2 Cor 4:4; Mat 6:22; Lk 11:35)—ability to perceive spiritual truth
2. **Light** (Mat 6:23; Lk 11:35; 2 Cor 4:6; Ps 119:105, 130)—knowledge and understanding
3. **Heart** (Jn 3:19-20)—core of your being; mind, will, and affections

C. **That You Might Know**

1. **Objective**—defined content, actual things that have been given to us
2. **Personal** (Gen 4:1)—intimate, relational
3. **Experiential**—something you make use of, act upon

D. **The Hope of Your Calling** (Heb 12:2)—the benefit, advantage, reward of being a Christian and following Christ

* **Hope**—something promised & desired, looking forward to with certainty

1. **The Riches of Inheritance** (2 Cor 1:20)
 - a. **His Inheritance**— to be His inheritance, treasured possession.
 - b. **In the Saints**—to be joined with them in Jesus Christ
 - c. **Glorious**—numbered with the saints, every blessing in Christ
2. **The Power of God** (Mat 22:29)
 - a. **Immeasurably great**—the almighty power of an infinite God
 - b. **Toward us who believe** (Num 6:24-26)—to benefit believers

III. **CHRIST'S AUTHORITY** (20b-23)

- A. **Seated at God's Right Hand**—favor, influence, authority
- B. **All things subordinated under Him**—superior, over all things
 1. **Over All Authority**
 - a. **Human**—civil, religious, family
 - b. **Angelic**—either fallen or righteous—rulers in the heavenly realm
 2. **Name above All Names** (Dan 7:9-14; Phil 2:9-11; 1 Tim 6:15; Heb 1; Rev 17:14 & 19:16)—the supreme title of authority
 3. **In this world and the next** (Mat 3:1-2; 12:28; Jn 18:36)—in this current system under domination of the devil and in the consummated Messianic kingdom that is yet to come in fullness
 4. **All things under His feet** (Ps. 8:6; Phil 2:10)—bowing before Him, submitting to His rule and authority
- C. **Head Over the Church** (22-23)
 1. **Supreme Over**—everything concerning the church
 2. **Gift to the Church**—for the benefit of the Church
 3. **The Fulness who Fills** (Col 1:19)—Jesus fills everything; we fill Him

Listen to "I Set My Hope on Jesus"
<https://youtu.be/q-dWxto9-XQ?si=fjCkeFtp4IcjPA2U>