

Thanks, Pleas, and What Matters

Life in Christ: Wealth, Walk, Warfare (Ephesians) – Part 31

Ephesians 1:16

June 21, 2015

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¹⁵ For this reason I, for my part, since hearing of your own faith in the Lord Jesus, and of the love which *you show* unto all the holy ones,

¹⁶ I do not cease giving thanks for you while making mention of you¹ during my prayers,...” (Ephesians 1:15-16, DJP)

Introduction:

I. It Matters Who...

A. ...Is _____ the Praying

1. Anybody can pray, right?

2. The *Bible*...

a. Hebrews ____:____

b. Proverbs ____:____

c. John ____:____

d. John ____:____

B. ...He Is Praying _____

1. It is one thing to pray for the _____:

Romans 9:3; 10:1

Matthew 5:45

Romans 2:4

2. It is quite another to pray for the _____

II. It Matters _____

A. A First Sign of _____

B. Full Fruition in _____

1. There is no aspect of ministry or life that Paul does not bathe in prayer – either his own prayer, or requested prayer

a. For *opportunities to preach* the Gospel (Col. ____:____)

¹ Some manuscripts do not contain “of you”; if absent, it would be implied, regardless.

- b. For *spread* of Gospel (2 Thess. ____:____)
- c. At the *organizing* of new churches (Acts ____:____)
- d. For the *spiritual growth* of churches (1 Thess ____:____)
- e. For *church unity* (Romans ____:____)
- f. For the *joy, peace, and hope* of believers (Romans ____:____)
- g. For the deep understanding and savoring of God's blessings (Eph. ____:____-____; ____:____-____)

2. This should teach us

III. It Matters _____

A. What "Thanks" Reveals

B. What _____ Thanks Reveals

- 1. Paul actually ...
- 2. Paul gives thanks *a lot*
 Romans ____:____
 1 Thessalonians ____:____-____
 1 Thessalonians ____:____
 2 Thessalonians ____:____
 2 Thessalonians ____:____
- 3. What it teaches us...

IV. It Matters _____

A. Might Have, But *Didn't*...

B. Instead *Did*...