

Paul's heartfelt prayer for the Ephesians



Ephesians 1:15-23



Bible Reading – Ephesians 1:15-23

15 Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God's people everywhere,

16 I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly,

17 asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God.

18 I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope He has given to those He called--His holy people who are His rich and glorious inheritance.

19 I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe Him. This is the same mighty power...



Bible Reading – Ephesians 1:15-23

20 that raised Christ from the dead and seated Him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms.

21 Now He is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else--not only in this world but also in the world to come.

22 God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made Him head over all things for the benefit of the church.

23 And the church is His body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with Himself.



1. Paul prayed for Spiritual Insight and Wisdom

In verse 16-17 Paul says, “I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you **spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God.**”



2. Paul prayed they would understand the confident hope

In verse 18 Paul says, “I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can **understand the confident hope** He has given to those He called--His holy people who are His rich and glorious inheritance.”



3. Paul prayed they would understand the greatness of God's power

Verse 19-20 continue. "I also pray that you will **understand the incredible greatness of God's power** for us who believe Him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated Him in the place of honour at God's right hand in the heavenly realms."



4. Paul prayed they would understand that Christ is above all things

Verses 21 - Now He is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come.



5. Paul prayed that they would understand that **Christ is over all things and the head of the church**

Verse 22 - **God has put all things under the authority of Christ** and has made Him head over all things for the benefit of the church.

Colossians 1:18 says, “**Christ is also the head of the church...**”

Colossians 2:19 also tells us that, “**Christ, the head of the body...**”



6 - Paul prayed that they would understand that we are Christ's body

Verse 23 - And **the church is His body**; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with Himself.

Romans 12:4-5 says, "Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, 5 so it is with Christ's body. **We are many parts of one body**, and we all belong to each other."



Closing summary

1. Paul prayed for Spiritual Insight and Wisdom
2. Paul prayed they would understand the confident hope
3. Paul prayed they would understand the greatness of God's power
4. Paul prayed they would understand that Christ is above all things
5. Paul prayed they would understand that Christ is the head of the church
6. Paul prayed they would understand that we are Christ's body

Amen