

## Paul's First Prayer For The Ephesians

Ephesians 1:15-20

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Paul often prays for the saints.

### ● Prayer For The Philippians.

Philippians 1:9-11, "And this I pray,

1. That your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and all discernment;
2. So that ye may approve the things that are excellent;
3. That ye may be sincere and void of offence unto the day of Christ;
4. Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are through Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God."

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Paul often prays for the saints.

### ● Prayer For The Colossians.

Colossians 1:9-14, "For this cause we also, since the day we heard (it), do not cease to pray and make request for you,

1. That ye may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,
2. To walk worthily of the Lord unto all pleasing, bearing fruit in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;
3. Strengthened with all power, according to the might of his glory, unto all patience and longsuffering with joy;
4. Giving thanks unto the Father, who made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; who delivered us out of the power of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love; in whom we have our redemption, the forgiveness of our sins."

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## Paul's Prayer For The Ephesians Ephesians 1:15-20

Verses 3-14 **Seven Spiritual Blessings Named:**

Ephesians 1:4, "He chose us in him before the foundation of the world"

Ephesians 1:5, "foreordained us unto adoption as sons through Jesus Christ"

Ephesians 1:6, "his grace, which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved"

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## Paul's Prayer For The Ephesians Ephesians 1:15-20

Verses 3-14 **Seven Spiritual Blessings Named:**

Ephesians 1:7, "Redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses"

Ephesians 1:9, "Making known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he purposed in him"

Ephesians 1:11, "in whom also we were made a heritage"

Ephesians 1:13, "in whom ye also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, — in whom, having also believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise"

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## Paul's Prayer For The Ephesians Ephesians 1:15-20

**Paul recognizes the faith and love of the Ephesians. 1:15-16**

- Heard of your faith. Colossians 1:4; 1 Thessalonians. 1:2-3, 8
- Heard of your love. John 13:34-35; Romans 12:9ff; 1 John 4:20

**"Cease not to give thanks for you ..."**  
**Romans 1:8ff**

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## Paul's Prayer For The Ephesians Ephesians 1:15-20

### That they might know God. (1:17)

- Titus 1:16, "They profess that they know God; but by their works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate."
- Essential to eternal life. John 17:3
- Failure to know God leads to everlasting destruction! 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9
- This knowledge comes through close personal association with God. cf. 2 Timothy 1:12ff

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## Paul's Prayer For The Ephesians Ephesians 1:15-20

This knowledge of God comes by

**"a Spirit of wisdom and Revelation" (1:17)**  
cf. Colossians 1:9

- Through study of God's word.  
Psalms 119:105, 130
  - Requires a love of truth. 2 Thessalonians 2:10ff
  - Requires diligence. Ephesians 3:3-4; 4:3-6
  - Requires putting off, putting on. Ephesians 4:20ff

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## Paul's Prayer For The Ephesians Ephesians 1:15-20

### That they may know "... His calling." (1:18)

- Requires that their eyes be open.  
cf. Acts 26:18; Matthew 13:15f
- Called by the gospel. 2 Thessalonians 2:14
- Called into His own kingdom and glory.  
1 Thessalonians 2:10-12
- Called into God's marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9
- Called out of kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of Christ. Colossians 1:13-14

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## Paul's Prayer For The Ephesians Ephesians 1:15-20

### That they may know "What is the HOPE of His calling." (1:18)

- The word "**hope**" means "desire with expectation"
- What is the expectant desire of this "**calling**" by God?
- Place of HOPE. Romans 8:24-25; Philippians 3:14, 20-21; 2 Peter 1:10

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## Paul's Prayer For The Ephesians Ephesians 1:15-20

### That they may know "What is the HOPE of His calling." (1:18)

- Paul has already revealed some of this hope in verses 4-5.
  - To be holy and without blemish.
  - To be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ.
- Paul will reveal more about it later in the epistle. cf. Ephesians 2:19-22; 5:26-27

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## Paul's Prayer For The Ephesians Ephesians 1:15-20

### That they may know the "RICHES of the glory of His inheritance." (1:18)

- God is glorified in His heritage ...  
Ephesians 1:11
- Saints are counted by God as great riches or wealth. cf. 1 Peter 2:9-10
- Inheritance. "*fellow heirs.*" Ephesians 2:12-13

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## Paul's Prayer For The Ephesians Ephesians 1:15-20

That they may know the "exceeding greatness of His **POWER.**" (1:19-20; 3:7, 20)

- Paul gives an example in Ephesians 2:1-6
  - We who were "**dead in trespasses**" (2:1-3) were "**made alive**" (4-5) and "**raised up**" (6)
- Those in Christ were spiritually dead, have been made spiritually alive. cf. Colossians 2:12-13; cf. Matthew 22:29
  - Which is easier? Matthew 9:2-8
- Just as God raised Jesus from the dead.

**God's power seen in both. Romans 6:3-4**

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## Paul's Prayer For The Ephesians Ephesians 1:15-20

That THEY might know:

- God.
- The hope of God's calling.
- The riches of God's inheritance.
- The power of God.

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## Paul's Prayer For US

That WE might know:

- God.
- The hope of God's calling.
- The riches of God's inheritance.
- The power of God.

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## God's Desire For Us

- That we increase in our understanding, appreciation, and application of these blessings.
- NOTE: Before growth can occur, there must be life!
  - Have you been "**made alive together with Christ**"? Ephesians 2:5-6; Colossians 2:12-13

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## Have you been "**made alive together with Christ**"? Ephesians 2:5-6; Colossians 2:12-13

Hear the Word. Romans 10:17

Believe the Gospel. Mark 16:16

Repent. Acts 2:38

Confess faith. Acts 8:37

Be Baptized. Acts 2:38

Live Faithfully. Revelation 2:10

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