

The Hope of His Calling

Ephesians 1:15-23

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For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints...

Ephesians 1:15-23, cont.

...and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

“For this reason...”

- **God**
 - **“blessed us in Christ” (Eph. 1:3)**
 - **“chose us in him” (Eph. 1:4)**
 - **“predestined us for adoption” (Eph. 1:5)**
- **In Christ we have obtained an inheritance, and become God’s inheritance.**
- **God initiates and sustains our salvation: “Jesus Christ, the author and finisher of our faith” (Hebrews 12:2).**

What should we expect to happen to us once we are saved?

- We should expect God to move in our lives.**
- We should expect our hearts to respond to God's voice.**
- We should expect God to reveal to us the victory we have in Christ.**

1. We should expect God to move in our lives.

“For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him.” (Eph. 1:15-17 ESV)

We are saved by God's work

- **Ephesians 1:7: “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.”**
- **1 Corinthians 12:3: “No one can say Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.”**
- **1 John 3:14: “We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren.”**

1. We should expect God to move in our lives.

“For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him.” (Eph. 1:15-17 ESV)

Glory, wisdom, and revelation

- **John 1:14: “The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”**
- **“Wisdom” – the great doctrines of the Bible**
- **“Revelation” – divinely communicated truth, today by the Spirit through the Word.**
- **John 17:17: “Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.”**

2. We should expect our hearts to respond to God's voice.

“...having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might...” (Eph. 1:18-19)

The Surpassing Power of God in Us

- Ephesians 3:7: efficient and practical power: “Effectual working of His power”
- Philippians 3:21: overcoming power: God is able to “subdue all things to Himself.”
- Colossians 1:28-29: Inward working power :
“We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this end I labor, striving with all His energy working powerfully within me.”

3. We should expect God to assure us of His final victory

“...according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all” (Eph. 1:20-23)