

Ephesians: Rooted & Established

(Ephesians 3:14-21)

Paul's Prayer

- The heart of this text is a prayer on the Ephesians
 - “For this reason...” (v. 14, see 3:1)
 - Paul's motive is based in the work of Christ uniting people to God and one other in salvation (2:11-22)

The Father of All (v. 14-15)

- Paul entreats God as the Father
 - A term not often used by Jews of this time
 - But used often by Jesus and the Church
- God is the Father of
 - Jesus
 - All followers of Christ, whether Jew or Gentile
- πατήρ (*patēr*) & πατριᾶ (*patria*): God is the source of our concept of fatherhood
- God creates everyone
 - But we understand His role as Father only through Jesus (John 1:12)

Strength, Love & Fullness (v. 16-19)

- Paul's prayer is for God to give the Church power to do 3 things:
 - All from His “wealth of glory”
- 1. Empowering strength from the Spirit (v. 16)
- 2. Intimate knowledge of Christ's indwelling & love, which grounds us
 - Literally, that we might know the unknowable love of Jesus
- 3. Be filled to the fullness of God
 - That God would fill us with His presence to overflowing

A Word of Glory (v. 20-21)

- This prayer leads Paul to praise God for who He is
 - Doxology: A “word of glory”
- God's work is greater than anything we can even imagine
 - It is indescribable
- And it is at work in the Church through Jesus
 - AMEN!

So What?

- Are we rooted and established in the love of Christ?
- Are we allowing His glory to shine through us?

Meditation Verse: Ephesians 3:17b-19