

Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles

January 4, 2024 – Praying the Apostolic Prayers – Erlinda Cruz

Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation (Ephesians 1:15-23)

“After I heard of your faith... and your love... I do not cease... making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him (Father), the eyes of your understanding being enlightened;

- that you may know (experience) what is the hope of His (Father’s) calling,
- what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,
- and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power
- which 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 principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.
- He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,
- which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”

Ephesians 1:15-23

Continual Prayer to the Father of Glory for the Saints (Ephesians 1:15-17)

“I do not cease... making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit... of revelation in the knowledge of Him...”

Ephesians 1:16-17

Paul was writing from his prison cell in Rome to a Church that he knew well since he established the church of Ephesus (Acts 19-20). Paul received reports that that they were filled with faith and love. This greatly encouraged Paul in his imprisonment.

We see Paul’s revelation of the power of prayer. Paul did not cease to make mention of the Ephesian believers in prayer (Ephesians 1:16). God will give the spirit of revelation to us to the degree that we ask Him to. We must not have “trust” God’s sovereignty in an unbiblical way by “trusting” Him to do what He requires us to do. We cannot do God’s part and He will not do our part. We must seek to obey Him as we fill our heart with His Word and ask Him for revelation.

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened..”

Matthew 7:7

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You do not have because you do not ask (James 4:2).

We see Paul's revelation of the power of prayer as well as his highest focus in prayer (for the spirit of revelation). Paul did not cease to make mention of the Ephesian believers in prayer.

Paul appealed to God as the God of Jesus and the Father of glory (Ephesians 1:17).

1. The God of our Lord Jesus Christ – what God did for Jesus in His humanity is the idea picture of what God is committed to doing for His people.
2. Father of glory – the glory that God possesses is the glory that He longs to impart to His people according to their hunger for it. This is the core reality behind this prayer.

Today what revelation do we want to see to bring us change?

What revelation are we allowing heaven to pour on us?

That this prayer of Paul for the Ephesians. then and for us today,

— is the vision of the final purpose of God

— is a revelation given of the glory that made the world with a word.

This prayer of Paul aims to give us a revelation that:

- we are chosen before the foundation of the world
- called to be holy and blameless before Him in love
- adopted as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, by which He made us acceptable in the beloved.
- in Him (Christ Jesus) we have redemption
- forgiven through His blood (Jesus blood)
- because of the riches of His grace, this grace abounds towards us in all wisdom and prudence (discretion)
- this all He did to make us know the mystery of His will
- all these He did in His good pleasure and all these He purposed for Himself
- "In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory." - Ephesians 1:11-14 NKJV

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Therefore, that's why Paul prayed for wisdom and revelation because it takes the power of God for us to understand the power and calling we are called to be.

It takes revelation to understand our inheritance in Christ.

It takes revelation to understand that we have the power of His resurrection life in us.

It takes revelation to understand that our authority is given to us from being seated with Jesus on the right hand of God in the heavenly places.

It takes revelation to understand we are placed far above principalities and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

It takes revelation to know that He (God) put all things under His feet (Jesus) as head over all things to the church.

Really meditate on these.

Really see why in Philippians Paul said, "you can do all things through Christ because of the power you/we inherited and was given through the resurrection life of Jesus!"