

Understanding the Greatness of God's Power
"Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord"
Ephesians 1:15-2:22

I. The Setting

- [1] Doxology – 1:3-14
- [2] Prayer – 1:15-2:21

II. The Important Emphases of the Broader Context – 1:3-3:21

1. The Importance of Prayer

- DOXOLOGY (begins it all) – 1:3-14
- PRAYER BEGINS – 1:15-23
- PRAYER CONTINUES – 3:1
- PRAYER CONCLUDES – 3:14-19
- DOXOLOGY (ends it all) – 3:20-21

2. The Importance of the Power of God

- [1] God's Power is Seen in His Raising of Christ from Physical Death – 1:15-23
- [2] God's Power is Seen in His Raising of Believers from Spiritual Death – 2:1-10
 - {1} Man's Predicament – 2:1-3
 - {2} God's Intervention – 2:4-10
- [3] God's Power is Seen in His Raising of All – Jew & Gentile – 2:11-22
 - {1} Man's Predicament – 2:11-12
 - {2} God's Intervention – 2:13-22

III. Lessons to Learn from Paul's Discussion of His Prayer

The Primary Overarching Truth is that – the Focus is on God – Not Man

1. "What is the Hope of His Calling"
2. "What is the Glory of His Inheritance in the Saints"
3. "What is the Surpassing Greatness of His Power"

1A. The Focus of Prayer should be on the Greatness of Our God

– NOT the Gravity of Our Circumstances

2A. The Focus of Prayer should be a Change in Our Outlook

– NOT a Change in Our Circumstances

3A. The Focus of Prayer should be on God Clarifying What Is

– NOT Changing What Isn't

4A. The Focus of Prayer should be on the Omnipotence of God

– NOT the Impotence of Man

5A. The Focus of Prayer should be on the Infiniteness of God

– NOT the Finiteness/Fraility of Man