

BIBLE STUDY NOTE

VOLUME 1, WEEK 7



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All Scripture quotations are from the King James Version of the Bible, except otherwise stated.

MAKING THE MOST OF THIS STUDY NOTE:

- 1. Be open to learn.**
- 2. Get your study materials: Book, Bible, Pen and Note.**
- 3. Take your time to study and understand.**
- 4. If you have any questions, contact the author with the details in the previous page.**

STUDY TEXTS:

Ephesians 3:14-19

14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

WHY THIS STUDY?

1. To lead the believer to understand the surpassing love of God.

STUDY

The apostle—Paul, had a series of prayers he had for the churches and individuals he wrote to. In each prayer, we observe something in common. Let's look at some of them:

Ephesians 1:15-17

15 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,

16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

He prayed that the believer will have revelation in the knowledge of God.

Philippians 1:9

And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and *in* all judgment;

He prayed that the believer will abound; increase; exceed in love and knowledge.

Colossians 1:9-10

9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard *it*, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Again, he prayed for the believer to be filled with the knowledge of God's will; to increase in the knowledge of God which will result in the believer being fruitful in his walk with God.

Philemon 1:4-6

4 I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers,

5 Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints;

6 That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

He desired for the believer to acknowledge every good thing which is in him in Christ Jesus.

From all the texts above, we see the emphasis on knowledge. So we can understand that the greatest need of the believer (in Christ) is knowledge. God desires for the believer to know all he has received in Christ. That word “**knowledge**” in the above texts in the original Greek is “**epignosis**” and it speaks of **precise; correct; accurate; full knowledge**. Not assumed knowledge, but precise knowledge. Not a wrong knowledge, but correct knowledge. Not half-truth, but accurate truth. Not a partial knowledge, but full knowledge. That’s what God desires for the believer—to know Him; all Christ has done and what he has received in Christ. God doesn’t want to be mysterious, He wants to be fully known by us. And we know Him more as we grow in our knowledge of Christ.

There are two things that are the primary targets of the devil—the enemy; our adversary. One is for the unsaved not to come to the saving knowledge in Christ and two for the believer not to increase in knowledge of all Christ has done and what he has received in Christ. He is not overly concerned that the believer has every other knowledge as long as it is not the knowledge of Christ, all He has done and what the believer has received in Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:4

In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

He blinds the minds of the unbeliever from seeing the light of the glorious gospel of Christ through information; false knowledge. And what is the solution to this? The next verse tells us:

2 Corinthians 4:5

For **we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord**; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

We preach Christ Jesus, not ourselves. The knowledge that saves the unbeliever is the Gospel of Christ; the greatest love story of all time, not our life story. Only the Gospel of Christ has capacity to save a man.

So knowledge is key both for the unbeliever and believer. If you have ever felt like you don't know what to pray for your fellow believer, these prayers outlined by Paul as inspired by the Holy Ghost are prayers you can pray. Instead of praying, "Oh Lord, 'arrest' that brother; that sister; my child; my family members", take these prayers and pray them instead and you will see changes in the lives of individuals. God is not a policeman to go and be arresting people!

Now, to our texts for today

Ephesians 3:14-19

- 14** For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;
17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

Paul is praying here that believers will know; be aware of; be sure; be resolved in the love of Christ. That is, for us to be rooted and grounded in the love of God. Not their love for God, but the love of God for them. He says in **verse 19**, “to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge.” That phrase “**passeth knowledge**” speaks of “**surpassing; exceeding knowledge.**” That is, above everything else, the believer should know; be aware of; be sure; be resolved in the love of Christ. The knowledge that should exceed every other knowledge in the believers mind is the love of Christ. He should be rooted and grounded in this knowledge.

In **verse 17**, the word “ **dwell** ” implies “**settled.**” The word “**heart**” implies “**consciousness; thoughts.**” The word “**rooted**” implies “**firm.**” The word “**grounded**” implies “**to lay a basis for.**” So the knowledge of the love of Christ has to be settled in the consciousness of the believer. He should be firm in this knowledge—the knowledge of the love of Christ. He should be established in this knowledge.

The love of Christ is the basis for the Christian faith. So for the believer to always be stable in how God views him, he has to be settled on the knowledge of the love of Christ. Not in his love for God, but in the over the top knowledge of the love of God for him. He should understand it; have a firm grip of it; be settled in the knowledge of the love of Christ. He should have a complete knowledge of the love of God in Christ. Once he has this knowledge, he has understood the Christian faith.

In our last study, we saw that the Bible speaks of two covenants; the old and new covenants and that the work of Christ through His death, burial and resurrection ushered in a new Covenant. In the old covenant, the focus was on the individuals **love for God**. And no one was able to prove their **love for God**. But now in the new covenant, the focus is on the **love of God—the love of God for us** in Christ. Not your **love for God**, but the **love of God for you!**

This is the most important discovery the believer can make. To know that his acceptance before God is **solely** based on the love of God for him, not his

love for God. This is what we build our lives on—the love of God! Why? God’s love for us is stable; constant; never changing. We can trust in His steadfast love for us always.

Romans 8:37-39

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

What a bold statement by Apostle Paul! “I am persuaded.” That is, I am confident; convinced; without a shadow of doubt of the love of God which is in Christ Jesus. We too can say like Paul that we are persuaded; confident in; convinced of the love of God for us which is in Christ Jesus. We are assured nothing can separate us from the love of God. Hallelujah! And that’s why we are more than conquerors. Not because of us, but through him that loved us. We have the ultimate victory; we are more than conquerors! Why? Nothing can separate us from the love of God! Whether you turn left, right, front, back, nothing...it is stable; it is **His love for you**. This is the surpassing; exceeding knowledge God wants us to know—the fact we are secure in his love forever.

1 John 4:17-19

17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

19 We love him, because he first loved us.

Our love is made perfect in God’s perfect love. In His perfect love is no fear. Not our perfect love, but His perfect love for us. And today we love him and others because He first loved us. We rest in the knowledge that He first loved

us and from that we respond by walking in love with others—we love because He FIRST loved us. We first understand love in the fact that He first loved us. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins (1 John 4:10). You are blessed. God loves you. Yes, you!

Affirmations

I know the perfect love of God.

I am convinced of the loved of God for me.

I am secure in the love of God forever.

I love just as I have been loved by God.

OUR MISSION

We believe that a published material will go where one may not go physically. And that is why our mission is to see the Gospel of Christ published in all nations through our various publications.

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