

PRAYER TO KNOW THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST
(Ephesians 3:14-17a)

- I. DEVOTION to GOD (Eph. 3:14-15)
 - A. The “reason” is what God has done for us IN CHRIST
 - B. The prayer is described as BOWING his KNEES
 - 1. This is not a REQUIRED posture for prayer
 - 2. Appropriate for making SUPPLICATION or CONFESSION (Ezra 9:5-6; Dan. 6:10)
 - 3. Appropriate for WORSHIP (Ps. 95:1-6)
 - C. The prayer is addressed to “the FATHER”
 - 1. May mean He’s the Father of the WHOLE family of BELIEVERS, whether DEAD or LIVING (cf. 2:15-22)
 - 2. May mean that as the Sovereign CREATOR, God names “every family” of beings in HEAVEN and on EARTH (cf. 3:9-10)
- II. Desire That We Experienced the SPIRIT’S POWER (Eph. 3:16)
 - A. This is a GIFT from God
 - B. This is “according to the RICHES of His GLORY” (cf. 1:7)

- C. This is to provide SPIRITUAL STRENGTH (cf 1:19)
- D. This is experienced in the “INNER MAN” (cf. 2 Cor. 4:16)
 - 1. Our “outer man (BODY) is DECAYING”
 - 2. Our “inner man” is CONSTANTLY being RENEWED

III. Desire That We Experience the SAVIOR’S PRESENCE (Eph. 3:17a)

- A. This is not INITIAL indwelling for SALVATION
- B. This is the SETTLED indwelling of SANCTIFICATION
 - 1. *Not* that you will PERMIT Christ to have ACCESS
 - 2. *But* that you will ACCEPT Christ’s AUTHORITY without RESISTANCE

- C. It is manifested as the ability to CONFIDENTLY rely on God’s providential direction through life, reflecting the CHARACTER and JOY of being in Christ
 - 1. Includes INCREASING confidence of our FAITH
 - 2. Includes INCREASING consistency of our OBEDIENCE
 - 3. Includes DECREASING frequency of SIN
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