



# KNOWING GOD BETTER

Ephesians 1:15-19

## KNOWING GOD BETTER:

- Aha moment – The power of Illumination
- Light helps us to see what is. We need illumination, revelation, to know God better. If we are going to experience the fullness of the Christian life we need revelation about who Jesus is AND who we are in Christ. This is where Paul takes us next.

## EPHESIANS 1:15-19

- "For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all his people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers."
- Context: Paul is in prison. Hard times, struggling churches. And then this church. A move of God. Life change. Faith and love. (Not stopped giving thanks – emphasizes the amount of time he has spent in prayer) (thriving people encourage their leaders)

## EPHESIANS 1:15-19

- "I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better."
- We need revelation about who God is, if we are going to know Him more. They have been sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, he is praying for more – more presence, more revelation. Deeper. (Circumstances, Scripture – God-breathed; HS revelation, whispers)

## EPHESIANS 1:15-19

- "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe."

## KNOWING GOD BETTER:

- In order for us to know God better we need revelation from the Spirit. Paul prays for them that they will receive revelation about their membership privileges in Christ, because this will help them to know the glorious Father. *The gifts you receive reveal something about the giver Himself.* He prays for revelation that we will know (1) the hope of our calling, (2) the riches of our inheritance, & (3) his incomparably great power for us.

## KNOWING GOD BETTER:

- **First, If you are going to know God better, you need revelation about the hope of your calling.** Eph 1:18, "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you." You have a future hope & you are deeply cherished by God – you need revelation to know the hope of your calling. (Nothing to fear – e.g., deliverance, death - revelation eliminates fear; Jesus isn't nervous)

## KNOWING GOD BETTER:

- **First, if you are going to know God better, you need revelation about the hope of your calling.** (Eph 1:18)
- God wants us to experience the fullness of hope for all the blessings Paul just enumerated. We need an expanded awareness of all the implications of these blessings. Your calling covers past, present & future - a sure foundation. Great blessings reveal our glorious Father. (Life change – revelation)



## KNOWING GOD BETTER:

- **Second, if you are going to know God better, you need revelation about the riches of your inheritance.** (Eph 1:18, "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know... the riches of his glorious inheritance in his people.")
- (Both senses of inheritance – Ownership – we are God's glorious inheritance, incredibly valuable. Authority)

## KNOWING GOD BETTER:

- **Second, if you are going to know God better, you need revelation about the riches of your inheritance.** (Eph 1:18)
- God has chosen us as a people for himself & gave us authority to carry on his kingdom works. (Broken planet. Breaks the Father's heart; Cancer patients; Sex trafficking, addiction, violence. Kingdom – reverse the effects of the fall, salvation, advance the Kingdom naturally & supernaturally)

