

Prepared for Eternity

“...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, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what is the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints...”

– Ephesians 1:17-18.

The Apostle Paul prayed for the Christians in Ephesus that they would receive the two anointings of wisdom and revelation. These believers were saved, baptized in the Spirit, and maturing in God- but Paul knew that much more is needed to enter into all of God’s plans.

THE SPIRIT OF REVELATION

The Lord desires to reveal His plans and goals for us. Becoming saved and receiving eternal life through Christ is crucial for our eternal destiny, but it is only the doorway into God’s heavenly kingdom. Like any other kingdom, the kingdom of God has many activities and responsibilities.

God’s purposes for our lives will continue to develop throughout eternity. Since God is infinite in wisdom, love, and power, there will always be more of God for us to experience and have increasingly manifested through our lives. Eternity will never get boring! And as the redeemed continually grow in their character and abilities, the kingdom of God will also always be expanding- as Isaiah 9:7 declares, *“of the increase of His government there will be no end.”*

Paul also revealed to the Ephesian believers *“...that in the ages to come, He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus,”* Eph.2:7. As we look through the Scriptures, we see that God has progressively led His people through different ages, or dispensations, where He is progressively lifting His people up into higher and greater things. From the Age of the Law (Moses to Christ), to the Age of Grace (from Christ’s first until His second coming), into the coming Age of the Millennium (Revelation 20) and then into the New Heavens and New Earth (Revelation 21-22) we see that God’s plans are to lead us from glory to greater glory, and from strength to greater strength!

There are incredibly great rewards and promotions that are awaiting the redeemed, such as thrones, (Rev.3:21, Mt.19:28, Rev.20:4-5) crowns (2 Tim.4:8, 1 Cor.9:11, Rev.3:11, mansions (Jn.14:2), and many other blessings, Mt.5:12, Mt.10:32, & Rev.21:7.

THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM

As we gain revelation about God’s future plans for His sons and daughters, we then need to also gain wisdom so that we can correctly prepare and step-by-step enter in. Without wisdom we might see a goal, yet never arrive there!

The Lord originally said to Adam and Eve that they would multiply and that mankind would rule the world. However, in God’s wisdom he only gave them a garden to take care of in the beginning. The Lord Jesus said that if we are faithful with little we can then be entrusted with much, Lk.16:10. While mankind started out being entrusted with a garden, at the end of the Bible in Revelation 21:10-17 we find that the redeemed will be entrusted with a city that will be over 2,000 km. long, wide, *and high!* The highest skyscraper on earth today is still less than one kilometer high- what much greater things God is preparing us for! That is why we need to grow in wisdom, so that we will become prepared for the much greater things to come, Lk.19:16-17.

By the end of his earthly life Paul knew that he had hit the mark and become prepared for his heavenly promotions, 2 Tim.4:6-7. If we fully follow the Lord we can also be assured that we will have the same *“abundant entrance into the everlasting kingdom,”* 2 Pet.1:10. Then we will be greeted with the wonderful words of our Savior, *“Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord!”* –Matthew 25:21.

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