

## Easter Season 2022:

### ***Acknowledging & Affirming Our Lord's Victory! Praying for Godliness That Glorifies God: Strong, Secure, & Saturated!***

—Ephesians 3:14–21 & other supporting passages

#### The CENTRAL EMPHASIS of Today's Study:

As faithful followers of our resurrected Lord & Savior,  
we've been \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ for  
living a lifestyle that \_\_\_\_\_ !

#### —from 2 Peter 1

2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the **knowledge of God** and of Jesus our Lord; 3 **seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything necessary for life and godliness**, through the **true knowledge of Him** who called us by His own glory and excellence.

4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

#### —from Romans 11

33 **Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!** How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! 34 For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who became His counselor? 35 Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to him again? 36 **For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever.** Amen.

#### —from Ephesians 3

20 Now to Him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think through the *(spiritual)* power that *(resides and)* works in us—21 **to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus** to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

#### —SOME ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS TO HELP US GET STARTED:

- “As children bring their broken toys with tears for us to mend, I brought my broken dreams to God because He was my friend. But then instead of leaving Him in peace to work alone, I hung around and tried to help with ways that were my own. At last I snatched them back and cried, “How can You be so slow?” “My child,” He said, “What could I do? You never did let go.”
- “What a special privilege it is to be **called to represent Christ** at this pivotal moment of history! **We are called for such a time as this.** And **we must pray that our light might shine more brightly than ever in our darkening world.**” —Erwin W. Lutzer

#### —THREE QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- How has the **condition** and **circumstances** of our **culture** influenced our prayer lives?
- What are the most pressing prayer requests that we have?
- How have the condition and circumstances of our culture impacted our **personal worldview** or our **personal thoughts about God**?

#### —DIGGING INTO GOD'S WORD

—(Considering the Context ... & then the Content)—

- 1) The Lord promised to send the Holy Spirit.
- 2) The Church was started when God's Spirit came to reside in all the faithful followers of Christ —and provide “us” with power to carry out the ministry given to the Church.
- 3) Ephesians 1–3:13 defines and describes what God has provided for faithful followers of the Lord. *A summary statement: We are rescued by grace through trusting how Christ took our place in His death, burial, & resurrection! Once we have placed our lives under His authority, His Spirit resides in us, giving us strength.*
- 4) Ephesians 3:14–6:24 details and describes how God enables us to develop character traits that are like Christ. *A summary statement: Through the guidance and direction of God's indwelling Spirit, our minds are being renewed and our lifestyles begin to develop into the image of Christ.*

—5) Ephesians 3:14–21 is a **prayer** by Paul for .....

—A Prayer for us to use as an **EXAMPLE**:

Are my prayers 1} **BEGINNERS'** prayers;  
2} **BETWEENERS'** prayers; —or—  
3} **BIBLICAL** prayers?

—) There are 5 requests in this prayer that we also should pray!

—1— **A determined desire for** .....

—That our minds, mouths, & manners would be  
governed, guided & guarded by God's Spirit.

—According to the riches of His glory = power sent from above

—2— **The** ..... **that comes when Christ dwells in us**

—When Christ dwells in our hearts, He settles in  
to make each of our lives His HOME

—This provides us with stability & security because ...  
we are rooted & grounded in HIS LOVE

—3— **To be** ..... **by the LOVE OF CHRIST**

—So that we'll begin to COMPREHEND how  
infinite & immeasurable it is.

—This enables us to REALIZE & RECOGNIZE the  
RICHES God has made available to us.

—This encourages us to REQUEST & RELY on the  
RESOURCES of God's love & grace.

—4— **To be** ..... **with the LOVE OF CHRIST**

—The MEANS of our fullness is God's Holy Spirit.

—The MEASURE of our fullness is our GODLINESS.

—5— **To be** .....

**to bring GLORY to God in everything we do.**

—God's strength, power and might are above and beyond anything  
we can imagine or understand!

—The power of God's Spirit working in us, ENABLES us to:  
submit to His authority,  
obey Him,  
worship Him & Him alone!

—**OUR PRACTICAL & PERSONAL RESPONSE TO THESE TRUTHS**

—1} **This is a** ..... **for our prayers!**

—2} **Our desire and ability to give glory to God will** .....  
as the ..... of our knowledge &  
the ..... of our relationship .....

—3} **The abundance of God's riches is more than our minds can  
comprehend, but He has provided everything .....  
for us to live a lifestyle that gives Him glory.  
The only excuse or reason why .....  
is because ..... !**