

A Sure Foundation: The Letter To The Ephesians

7 – PAUL’S SECOND PRAYER (EPHESIANS 3:14-21)

I. Paul’s Response To Grace (Ephesians 3:14-15)

- After explaining the Mystery, Paul once again makes the statement “For this reason.”
- It reflects on his discussion of our salvation and the unity between Jew and Gentile in Christ.
- Because of the grace of salvation, Paul bowed his knees in prayer to the Father of Jesus Christ.
- The phrase “from whom the whole family in heaven and earth” refers to creation.
- Paul is praying to God who the Father of all creation in heaven and on earth.

II. Paul’s Prayer (Ephesians 3:16-19)

A. God’s Resources (Ephesians 3:16)

- Paul is asking that God would grant them certain things according to the riches of his glory.

B. The Requests (Ephesians 3:16-19)

1. Strengthened In The Inner Man (Ephesians 3:16)

- Paul prayed that believers would be strengthened with might in the inner man.
- His prayer reflects that this strengthening of the inner man is through the Holy Spirit.

2. Christ Dwelling In our Hearts (Ephesians 3:17)

- Paul is praying that Christ may dwell in their hearts through faith.
- The word “dwell” conveys the idea of taking up permanent residence.

3. The Comprehension Of Christ’s Love (Ephesians 3:17-19)

- Because they are rooted and grounded in love, he prays that they comprehend God’s love.
- He wants them to comprehend this love with all the saints.
- He wants them to comprehend what the vastness of God’s love.
- He describes the love of Christ as something beyond our understanding.

4. Filled with the Fullness Of God (Ephesians 3:19)

- Paul also prays that the believers may be filled with the fullness of God.

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III. Paul's Doxology (Ephesians 3:20-21)

- Paul directs his blessing to God.
- He describes God as being able to do beyond what we ask or think.
- The word "think" can also be translated "dream."
- God is able to do this according to the power that works in all believers.
- Paul ascribes glory to God in the church by Christ Jesus.