

Ephesians 1:15-23

1 long beautiful sentence in Greek

my prayer for you

1:15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason

1:16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.

Paul's thanksgiving for the faith and love of the Ephesian church – I too – faith=trust,.... , relying on him for life

1:17 I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him,

The sentence continues with a prayer for their continued enlightenment, and a confession of the authority and power God has given to Christ.

Prayer to increase in knowledge through wisdom and revelation – ie through living life and what God reveals

Always need instruction and growth even if your faith and love are already commendable

1:18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints,

eyes of heart be opened – more fully to presence of Christ over all

1:19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

Called to live up to being Christ's body – Christ is seated at God's right hand in the heavenly places above all – church to be his body – fullness of Christ who fills all in all

To know three things

Hof of this calling

Riches of inheritance

Power of God who raised Jesus and seated him in the heavens over all, the resurrection and ascension power

1:20 God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,

1:21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.

Above all – over all powers that might compete with Christ for human allegiance

Not just human authorities but also power of wealth or status, or power of one's own group (identity) over others as superior in some way.

my prayer

1:22 And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church,

1:23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

And so I pray ...