

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ We may know the full knowledge of God. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ We know what is in God. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ What does God intend to do? ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■? His purpose.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ These are the things that are revealed to us ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ That we may know it. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ And now you find in the second prayer ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ it is different from the first prayer. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ The first prayer he prayed to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ The second prayer he prayed to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ Why? Because God is the revealer of all wisdom. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ So you need to pray to God who is the source of wisdom.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ What you have there is objective truth. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ The truth that is in Christ Jesus. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ Everything is accomplished in Christ Jesus.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ And he does all for us. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ This is the eternal truth. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ He has called us with a holy calling.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ He has filled us with all his fullness. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ All the fullness of the Godhead dwells in him and ye are complete in him. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ And the power that has been manifested in Christ Jesus is also for us.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ These are the truth of God. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ Never change. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ Always true.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ It is not affected by us nor by circumstances. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ Because it is all being done in Christ Jesus. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ And to these eternal truths we need to know to understand.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ And then you find in the second prayer ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ we pray to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ When it comes to the matter of the Father ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ it refers to experience. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ There is a relationship between the Father and the Son.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ So the second prayer actually is for experience. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ Now, if you read this prayer very carefully ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ You'll find in verse 18 ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ In order that ye may be fully able to apprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and depth and height. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ Now, there is a little problem with translation.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ Because here in close to the original ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ He used the word apprehend ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ Now, this word includes the idea of knowing. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ More than just knowing it. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ It is apprehending it.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■,■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ In other words, it arrests us. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ It captures us. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ It grasps us.

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ Or we arrest it. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ We capture it. ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ And we grasp it.

So here you'll find it's more than just knowing. It is more than just understanding it. It goes on that what you know and understand began to grasp you.

And began to arrest you, capture you. Or you can say you have captured it. You have taken hold of it.

So it refers to our experience. It becomes our subjective experience. What we know become what we capture.

So you find as you read on when you began to apprehend it then you will be filled with it. I do not know I do not know if you you have seen the difference. Oftentimes we think when we see we have it.

Now this is not absolutely true. Seeing is believing. Why do we not believe? Because we don't see it.

? Spiritual things are unreal to us. They are in heaven and we are on earth. We are all in different realms.

And that's the reason why the natural man cannot receive the things of the Holy Spirit. And they are folly to him. And they cannot do it.

Because they are spiritually discerned. When you are talking spiritual things with natural man. He may be very brilliant.

When you talk with him of all things under the heaven he knows. But when you talk about things above the earth it is folly to him. I cannot believe because I don't see it.

We often say faith is blind. But faith is not blind. So far as the natural eyes are concerned it is blind.

But faith comes by seeing. But that seeing is the spiritual seeing. Your inner eyes being open. And because your inner eyes has been open. You have received wisdom and revelation.

So you can believe it. And it is hard not to believe. Is it that true? When Christ is revealed to you as the Savior. It is easy to believe and hard to not believe.

Because seeing is believing. You see it with your spiritual eyes is real is more real than the things on earth. Brothers and sisters when spiritual seeing happens you know what's happening. The heaven opens. In the spirit it is as if you are lifted up to the heaven. And you begin to see things that the naked eyes can never see.

Or even hear things that cannot be told. But to you it is so uplifting. When light comes into your life Your whole being seems to be enlightened And you seem to be lifted up to heaven.

You see things eternal. So different from things on earth. You are in another realm.

And they are so real, so living. And it gives you faith. So seeing is believing.

It happens. It does happen. Isn't that true? But does it mean that you have laid hold of all that you have seen? You can see like Moses the whole land of Canaan.

But he was not allowed to enter into it. You have to go in and put your foot down. And wherever your foot put down that is your possession.

Brothers and sisters I think we have a mistaken idea. Because we see we think that we have it. We think that we are already filled with it.

We are already in what we have seen. And what have we seen is already in us. You need another prayer.

You need a prayer Not only knowing but apprehending Not only seeing but possessing Not only knowing the eternal truth But have personal experience of it So this is the second prayer that Paul prayed for the saints in Ephesus. Brothers and sisters Do you think you need such prayer? Now let us look at this prayer. In verse 16 In order that he may give you according to the richest of his glory to be strengthened with power by his spirit in the inner man Here you find the inner man I think in some Chinese version you say the heart Now this is not the heart This is the inner man Now who is the inner man?

The inner man is the spirit of man It is a little different from the heart Now we sometimes say what is the heart? Now of course the heart is the center of our being It is the passage between the soul and the spirit Usually the heart includes all the functions of the soul plus the conscience of the spirit This you can find in the scripture We do not have the time to go into it But when you talk about the inner man sometimes we say the hidden man of the heart Then what does it refer to?

It refers to our spirit Now brothers and sisters we who believe in the Lord Jesus we have a new spirit We have a regenerated spirit And we have Christ dwelling in our spirit Where does the Holy Spirit dwell? He dwells in our spirit Just like the ark dwells in the holiest of all So you find that the spirit of God dwells in our spirit And that is Christ dwells in our spirit He becomes the life of our spirit Now that's what is in our spirit today That's the inner man And then you have the heart Now the heart here means the center of your being And the center of our being is the soul Even though it is a passage to the spirit But when you read

the context the heart you find in verse 17 that Christ may dwell through faith in your heart the heart really speaks of our soul Because the heart here represents the center of our being Now here we need a little explanation Before we are regenerated our spirit was dead Then how do we live?

We live by that created life of man And this created life is a fallen life Because man have sinned And so you find that that which dwells in our soul is a self-life And we live by that self-life And that's the reason why we are so self-centered Because that is our life We live for ourselves Our thinking our feeling our opinion is all governed by this I self-life But after we are saved something happens You find that our spirit is being renewed into life And the Holy Spirit Christ dwells in our spirit So you have a double life In your spirit Christ is your life In your soul self is your life So after you are saved I believe you all have experienced this You find that there is a civil war going on in your life Sometimes you feel that you want to do God's will Now where does that come from?

It comes from your spirit Because Christ is the life of your spirit It is heavenly It is spiritual And it has his nature It has his requirement So you find that after you are saved deep within yourself you want to please God You want to do his will But at the same time you find there is there within you too That is still self-centered If you do the will of God you will suffer You will get lost Be careful Love yourself Don't be so foolish Do what you want to do Gratify your own desire That will make you happy And you are torn between these two things And oftentimes you find that old Adam is too strong for Yang Melek Thon That is the famous saying by Melek Thon Philip Melek Thon He is the theologian of reformation He said old Adam is too strong for Yang Melek Thon And Martin Luther also said I do not afraid of all the pups and the cardinals But I am afraid of the pup within me Now brothers and sisters do you have such experience?

You are torn According to your inner man you want to go God's will But according to your outward man you want your own way And oftentimes you find these two cross each other And oftentimes you find your spirit is weak but your flesh is strong The Bible said our spirit is willing but the flesh is weak Well that's when you come to the will of God But when you come to the will of man the spirit is weak and the flesh is strong Brothers and sisters do you think you need to cry out to God and ask God that he will strengthen your inner man with his power of the spirit To be strengthened with power by his spirit in the inner man Do you think you need this prayer?

Because if you don't pray this prayer you already see something heavenly You already see something spiritual You already see something eternal And you desire it You want it But you are too weak Your flesh is too strong Brothers and sisters we need to cry out to God by the riches of his glory that he will strengthen our inner man by the power of the Holy Spirit And when that happened you know what really happened within you He said that that Christ may dwell through faith in your hearts Christ dwells in our spirit Self dwells in our hearts Self dwells in our hearts But when your spirit is so strengthened by the Holy Spirit you find that Christ will come as it were from your spirit into your heart He will dethrone Self and be enthroned on in your heart And during the process you are bearing

the cross Brothers and sisters Our Lord Jesus said if you want to follow me you have to deny yourself take up your cross and follow me Do you think that you can see spiritual things without paying any cost Spiritual things are wonderful But spiritual things are costly Because they are so different from earthly things The flesh lusts after the spirit and the spirit lusts after the flesh These are two opposites They can never be together It's either one or the other So brothers and sisters this matter of bearing the cross and follow the Lord is a daily thing The moment you see spiritually the moment a cross is formed If you don't see anything spiritual you have no cross because you just go on as you wish But the moment you see

something spiritual immediately a cross is formed in your life

Because the spiritual and the earthly cross each other Heaven and earth will cross each other Christ and self will cross each other If you do not bear the cross what you see spiritually will never become your vocation If you do not bear the cross what you see spiritually will never become your vocation And that's the reason why people may profess they have seen And yet what they have seen never appear in their life They become visionary There is no reality It is because there is a price to pay Brothers and sisters do not be too happy when you see because it challenges you Every time you see something heavenly it challenges you It depends on demands that you take up your cross and follow the Lord Self has to be dethroned Christ has to be enthroned in our hearts And when this thing happens

you know what you experience Being rooted and founded in love in order that you may be fully able to apprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and depth and height and to know the love of the Christ which surpasses knowledge And when Christ comes into your heart what is your experience You experience love You experience the love of Christ You experience a love that cannot be measured So it says here what is the length and width and breadth and height To know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge His love will so concentrate you Give you the strength to lay down everything for him Brothers and sisters This is the way to possess This is the way to be filled with the fullness of God And this is when you experience with all the things the unmeasurable love of Christ

How can anyone be able to pay any cost for heavenly things And you pay that cost willingly It is impossible with man But possible with God When your heart is filled with the love of Christ What can you do?

Look at Paul If you read Philippians chapter 3 After he had received that heavenly vision What was gained giving to him became lost What he put his trust in before Now he considered them as dross And he said for the excellency of the knowledge of Jesus Christ I count all things but dross I laid on everything Brothers and sisters It is love that makes this possible So out of his own experience Paul himself has gone through it He knows that there is a price to pay And it is the love of Christ that constrains him And that brings him into possession Brothers and sisters The same principle works in all of us I would like to give a personal testimony By the grace of God I was saved in 1930 When I was 15 In 1933 I was in college In 1933 I was When I was there the Lord began to open my eyes He

showed me a little bit just a little bit of the body of Christ I began to see that the body of Christ is one Christ is not divided I was at that time a Methodist My father was a Methodist pastor I was zealous for the Lord I was serving the Lord I was but when I see the body is one Christ is not divided I realized I cannot continue in any organized institution I realized I cannot continue in any institution I thank God two of my classmates had the same vision so three of us sometimes we would go into an empty classroom and pray together and sometimes even on the Lord's Day we would go into an empty room and break bread together we do not want to belong to any earthly institution we want to honor Christ as our head and we want to be open to all God's people and the Lord began to work during

that period I was at a crossroad if I want to follow my conviction I have to leave the denomination but I love my father I do not want to hurt him but if I don't what will be the future people began to gather together and I was leaving them and yet my two legs are on two boats and these two boats are sailing gradually apart I was troubled by it and it was at that time a servant of God came and we have some meeting in a home in a morning that brother gave a message it was Luke chapter 14 our Lord Jesus turned away from the multitude and said if anyone want to follow me he must forsake all and follow me before you build a tower

you need to sit down and count the cost whether you are able to finish it if you are going to fight with another king who came with 20 thousand soldiers and you only

are willing to use 10 thousand soldiers then you better ask for peace because you cannot succeed because you cannot succeed because in other words if you want to follow the Lord sit down not by impulse and count your cost before you begin anything and that message touched me very deeply so at lunch time after we have lunch we have a rest before we have the second meeting in the afternoon and I was sitting by myself I was praying Lord is it because I have never sat down and count my cost that I am now in such situation so I began to count my cost if I follow my conviction what will happen to me and you know the enemy knows how to pile on all these costs I began to see that I will be discharged from my university my family will cast me out all my future will be finished the more I counted

the cost the more it costly I told the Lord I cannot pay it I cannot do it I cannot do it then I saw the Lord I don't know whether it's a vision or a dream or what is it but I saw him coming to me showing me his bleeding hands and he said to me I did it all for you what will you do for me I said Lord I am willing I am willing to pay anything his love melts me and by that love he carried me through I am what I am here today it begins at that time so brothers and sisters seeing his believing but before believing alone is not enough trust and obey there is no other way to be happy in Jesus but to trust and obey so brothers and sisters you began to apprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and depth and height of the love of Christ it is not just a personal thing you enter

into fellowship with all the saints throughout the centuries that are constrained by the love of Christ and come into possession filled with the fullness of God is this what you are asking for it is what you are expecting all you have never asked you never ask him to strengthen your inner man by the power of his spirit you never ask that Christ will come through faith into your heart you never ask that he will fill your heart with his love that love that cannot be measured if you ask if you expect it you will find the power in you will be more than sufficient for all your needs and that is the way that the church is built that is the way that God will be glorified in the church in Christ Jesus dear brothers and sisters is it real with us very very soon we shall meet our Lord are we ready

for him all spiritual things worthwhile that worth our losing all and gain him to eternity dear Lord may thy spirit search our hearts may thy love fill our hearts dear that what thou dost desire to do in us may all be done may Christ be glorified in the church we ask in thy precious name may be glorified the church amen

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