

### **Ephesians 3:14-21**

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, <sup>16</sup>that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup>may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup>Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

**Paul does not want the Ephesians to miss the greater, surpassing reality of God.  
“For this reason ...”**

### **Ephesians 3:13-15**

So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named

**1) The everlasting reality of God is present alongside the temporary blessings and burdens of this life.**

### **Ephesians 3:16-17a**

<sup>16</sup>that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith

**Hard & Rare Prayer: for God to move miraculously upon the human heart**

**2) The human soul must be enlarged and expanded**

**3) An embrace of the immediacy of God and His residency within us**

### **Ephesians 3:17a-18**

that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup>may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth

**4) Know the paradigm for comprehending God’s love: overwhelming, prevailing, and defining**

### False Paradigms for God's Love:

- Our experiences
- Our 'love' preferences
- Our imagination

God's love is **through, in and beyond** my sinfulness.

### The Reality of How God Love Us:

- The **Cross** (Redemption Story)
- His very **nature / character**
- The **inner witness**

### Ephesians 3:19-20

and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup> Now to him who is able to do **far more abundantly** than all that we ask or think, according to the **power at work within us**, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

God's fullness = God's **love** as God's **power** upon our lives

### When the Love of God is Controlling:

- Who I am is settled/secure
- Open handed
- Simple
- High moral enthusiasm
- Pervasive worship