

**EPHESIANS – THE MYSTERY OF GOD’S CHURCH –  
OUR IDENTITY, OUR WALK, OUR WARFARE  
PROGRAM 29 (#912209)  
WEEK 6 (912346)  
©2012 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL**



***PRECEPTS FOR LIFE***  
a Production of  
**Precept Ministries International**  
P.O. Box 182218, Chattanooga, TN 37422-7218  
1-888-734-7707/ [www.preceptsforlife.com](http://www.preceptsforlife.com)

The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: Ephesians – The Mystery Of God’s Church –  
Our Identity, Our Walk, Our Warfare  
TITLE: Program 29 – God’s Power Gives Us Strength To Be A Witness  
Of His Love**

**THURSDAY**

**OPEN**

How in the world are you doing, my friend? Did you notice I said, “How in the world?” How are you making it? Do you realize that what is on the inside determines what happens on the outside and that’s what we’re going to look at today. I want you to be rooted and grounded and secure in the love of God.

**PART ONE**

It’s rough out there in the world isn’t it, Beloved? And you know what, it is going to get harder and harder because what’s going to happen is the darkness is getting darker. I mean sin abounds and there are no moral absolutes and consequently when you’re out there in the world and you’re

walking in the light and not walking in darkness like the rest of them, darkness hates the light. And not only that but we have all sorts of traumatic events happen to us because they don't like us and so how are we going to make it? How are we going to survive in this world? Well we have to be very careful that we understand what the truth is about us and this is what Paul is doing in Ephesians chapter 3. He is in a sense coming to a close with all these wonderful doctrinal truths, these truths about our position in Christ, these truths about the fact that we are now a new entity. We are one new man. We are the body of Jesus Christ. We are the church of Jesus Christ. We are the temple of God. We are a building that keeps growing and growing as new members come into the body of Jesus Christ and it's a mystery. It's a wonderful awesome mystery and it is a mystery, Beloved, of Jews and Gentiles in one flesh. Now part of this one new man that the world does not understand and consequently what Paul does at this point in his epistle is he stops and once again he lets them know I am praying for you. What is he praying? Well we know in chapter 1 right after this eulogy of praise he prayed three things for them. He prayed in chapter 1 that they would **"...know what is the hope of his calling..."** in Christ Jesus, the hope of this high calling that they had and **"...what [was] the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints. And what was the [exceeding] greatness..."** now listen carefully, **"...of His power towards us who believe...."** (Ephesians 1:18b-19a) Now what he's going to do in Ephesians chapter 3 is he's going to go back and he's going to pick up that power again. Because power is necessary in order to stand in this world that lies in darkness. Remember we saw what the Gentiles are like in Ephesians chapter 2. We saw that they walk **"...according to the course of this world..."** that they walk, **"...according to the prince of the power of the air."** (Ephesians 2:2b) [That they have in them the spirit that is at work in them and that they are sons of disobedience.] (Paraphrase, 2:2c) Now if they're sons of disobedience this means that they are living contrary to the

law, contrary to the Commandments. Now the world wants to get rid of the Commandments because the Commandments lay down the law so to speak and say this is what God expects and they don’t want to live under the dominion of of God. But also the Commandments are a protection to society. And when it says, “You shall not commit adultery,” well if you look at television, everybody’s sleeping with everybody and it really doesn’t matter. So what Paul wants them to understand is I am praying for you. I know that now in the midst of society that you are not only a new entity but you are an oddity and you are out of step with the world. So I’m going to pray for you and this is what I pray. He says in verse 14, **“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father.” (Ephesians 3:14)** Now when you see **“for this reason...,”** you have to go back and you want to understand why did he say **“for this reason...?”** Well he’s talking in verse 13 that he’s in tribulation and he’s saying in verse 13, **“Therefore I ask you not to lose heart [in] my tribulations on your behalf, for they are [for] your glory.” (Ephesians 3:13)** Paul was put in prison. Paul is writing from prison and Paul was put in prison because Paul is standing for the glorious good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ and the Jews that have not believed in Jesus don’t like this. And the Gentiles don’t like it and so he has been put into prison and because he’s in prison and he’s in tribulation, he’s saying, “I bow my knees for you on behalf of my Father. I’m in prison. I’m going through tribulations for your sake because I am determined to get the gospel to you because I am determined to take this good news into a world that prefers darkness rather than light. And so he says now watch what he says because this is so important. **“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.” (Ephesians 3:14-15)** Go back to Ephesians chapter 1 and what does he say in Ephesians chapter 1, verse 18? He says, **“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling...,”** all right, **“...what are the riches of the glory of His**

**inheritance in the saints.” (Ephesians 1:18)** In other words He is building His own family and so every family down here on earth ought to look to God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit which is a family, which is a unit and then model their lives down here based on that family. So if you want to know how a father behaves you don’t look at your earthly father, you look at your heavenly Father. You want to understand unconditional love. You don’t look at your earthly father, your earthly parents, you look at your heavenly Father. If you want to model your home so that it is a little bit of heaven on earth, you model it after God. It’s not just opening up lovely magazines. I like to look at “Traditional Home” and things like that but you don’t open those magazines and model everything after that or after the literature of the world. You model it after what you learn about heaven. What do you learn about heaven? You don’t expect when you get home to heaven to have the Father and the Son yelling at each other and saying, “Where are you?” “Why were you doing this?” “Well, glad you’re finally home. You just don’t....” You don’t do that. That’s not what heaven is all about. Heaven is about peace and heaven is about love and heaven is about kindness and that. So this is what He’s saying. Now we’re not going to get into that because that’s a whole ‘nother story and if you really want to look at it, I’ve written a book and it’s called “A Marriage Without Regrets” and I take this principle and I show you how your family, how your marriage, how your home ought to show the world a little bit of what heaven is like and I give you the examples. And so now watch what He says, “[From whom every family in heaven] [God the Father] **From whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He....**” (Ephesians 3:15-16a) [“I’m praying for you,”] Paul says, “**that He....**” God the Father, “**...would grant you, according to the riches of His glory....**” (Ephesians 3:15-16a) Now remember we have seen the riches of His glory. We have seen the riches of the glory of His grace and He says, “**...according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened....**”

**(Ephesians 3:16b)** You out there in this world are “...to be strengthened with power....” **(Ephesians 3:16b)** Now the word for power again is “dunamis,” d-u-n-a-m-i-s and that word dunamis means inheritant power, inheritant power. In Ephesians chapter 1, He says in verse 19 in his first prayer I want you to know “...what is the surpassing greatness of His power...,” God’s power, “...towards us who believe....” **(Ephesians 1:19a)** And it’s this same word “dunamis.” In other words he says, “I want you to know that when you are out there in this world you have the power to be everything that you need to be.” So he’s praying, “**That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power....**” and he tells you how the power comes, “...through His Spirit....” **(Ephesians 3:16)** And you remember this in Ephesians chapter 1 that the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us. And when the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us and I’m tucking my handkerchief in my necklace to show the Holy Spirit’s inside of me that the Holy Spirit is my means. It is my link; it is my umbilical cord, so to speak, to the power of God. And the thing is that I need to be strengthened with that power. The power’s there. The problem is we don’t appropriate it. We don’t know it. We don’t understand it. And so he’s praying that they would be “...strengthened with power through His Spirit....,” where? “...In the inner man.” **(Ephesians 3:16b)** Remember I told you it’s what’s on the inside, Beloved, that determines how you make it on the outside. And the problem is many of us do not know these truths. And so we walk around in this ignorance and it’s not a blissful ignorance. It is a pitiful ignorance. We walk around in this pitiful ignorance of this power that is within us and as we walk around in this pitiful ignorance of this power that is within us then we aren’t making it in the world. Why? Because we are not being strengthened in the inner man through the Spirit. You say, “How does that happen? We’ll talk about it right after this announcement.

## **PART TWO**

Welcome back, Beloved, and you are beloved. I am so excited about teaching you this book of Ephesians and I pray that have downloaded the study guide. That you’ve gone to our website “[preceptsforlife.com](http://preceptsforlife.com)” and are downloading the study guide because like when I give you a Greek word like “dunamis,” it’s there in the study guide but also the text so that you can mark this. Now remember we mark “power” like a firecracker ok, because we think of “dunamis,” we think of dynamite. It’s not dynamite but it’s an inherent power and what he says is he is praying and he is praying that God would grant you according to the riches of the glory of His grace. Listen. He just constantly reminds us that His glory, that everything that God is is ours and therefore we never have to doubt our source of supply. It’s never going to run dry. And he says, **“That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened...,”** I mean just think of it, **“...strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that...,”** here’s the purpose, **“...so that Christ may dwell in your hearts....” (Ephesians 3:16-17a)** You say, “I thought He already was in my heart.” Yes, He is but He’s not talking about coming in. He’s talking about being at home. In other words have you ever read that little book “My Heart, Christ’s Home?” (BY ROBERT BOYD MUNGER) And it talks about the different rooms in in your heart. I mean there aren’t different rooms but they use it as an illustration and the whole point there, the whole point of Christ dwelling in your heart means that He is at home there. In other words He’s totally in every aspect of your life not only when you’re at home and quiet but when you’re out there in the world. So he says, **“So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith....” (Ephesians 3:17)** And that’s what this program is all about. “Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God.” (PARAPHRASE, Romans 10:17) This is your book of faith and this is where you find out who you are, whose you are and how you are to

live as a result of it and the resources that you have in order to live this kind of a life. And so he says, “...that Christ may dwell in your hearts...,” that He may dwell at home, “...through faith...,” and listen. (Ephesians 3:17a) The more you get to know God’s Word and this is what we’re doing is we’re studying it book by book and chapter by chapter and verse by verse. That’s what Precepts For Life is all about so that you can discover truth for yourself so that you will know the Bible book by book. I mean when we get through with this study on Ephesians, you’re going to know this book of Ephesians. I mean you’re going to have a really good idea of the content of it especially if you’re studying along with me, especially if you’re marking the text because you’ll see it in your mind’s eye and so he’s saying it’s through faith. Well what we’re doing is we’re building your faith by giving you God’s precepts for life. And so what it is it’s precept upon precept upon precept upon precept. It is truth upon truth and this is what he’s doing. So he says, “...that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love.” (Ephesians 3:17) Now watch and just think of a tree with big roots and he says what I want for you is that you’re roots will go deep. That you will be rooted and you will be grounded in love. In other words love is the soil. Love is the foundation of all that you are out there in the world because you’re going to be out there. Jesus said, [“the world’s going to hate you because the world hated Me.”] (PARAPHRASE, John 15:18) And he says, [“if you are a friend of the world, the world would love you; but you’re not a friend of the world....”] (PARAPHRASE, John 15:19) We saw in John 17, “[Father, I’m] **not** [asking] **You to take them out of the world, but [I’m asking You] to keep them from the evil one.**” (John 17:15) So we’re out there and we’re with the evil one in the world and the prince of this world is ruling in the sons of disobedience and so we are hated but listen. The world may hate me but if I am secure in the love of God and if you are rooted and you are grounded in love, Precious One, then you know what? Even though they hate you, you

8



(Ephesians 3:20) The inner man is so important for you when you’re walking and living out there in the world. So he says, **“Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we [can] ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory....”**

(Ephesians 3:20-21a) Remember in Acts chapter 1, verse 8, before Jesus Christ was taken up into heaven, before He ascended and the eleven are standing there with Him on the Mount of Olives and He says, [“You wait because the Holy Spirit is coming and you will be filled with power. You shall receive the power of the Holy Spirit and you shall be My witnesses.”] (PARAPHRASE, Acts 1:8) And that word witnesses in a sense is martyrs and this is what it means. It means that you are going to live out there in the midst of that dark and crooked and perverse generation and you are going to live like this new man, like the body of Christ like the church of Jesus Christ and it says, **“To Him be...glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever....”** (Ephesians 3:21) Oh, Precious One, listen to me carefully. This is your precept for life. As you step out there in the midst of that darkness, if you will be strengthened in the inner man, if you will understand the power that’s in you, if you will understand the love of God that defies experiencing, it’s more abundantly then you will make it out in the middle of that crooked and perverse generation and you will stand firm and you will be a light to others who want to come to the light.