

Ephesians 3 Summarized

Sentences

3:1-7, for this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles—if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power.

3:8-12, to me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

3:13, therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.

3:14-19, for this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height -- to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

3:20-21, now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Paragraphs

3:1-7, [In light of everything God's given us due to our permanent union with His Son Jesus Christ—from adopting us into His family to giving us His Spirit to show us exactly how to live this new life with Him and His Son, a life where we have access to His infinite power and Jesus is our Leader and Sustainer, in other words, He saved us by grace while only requiring of us simple faith. Because when we were completely dead and following after Satan, God united us to His Son's life, resurrection, and royal position. Where Jews and Gentiles were once enemies, God has now united us together in Christ. This gave us intimate access to God the Father through His Spirit, who is now building us together in Christ into a holy temple where God, Himself, will dwell, in light of all this] Paul, Christ's designated prisoner for the Gentiles—that is, the one He appointed to bring the Gospel to the Gentiles—begins to pray but he interrupts himself to let the Ephesians know something they already know in general (and from what he's already said) but not in detail: that God personally revealed to Paul the mystery—which had not been revealed by the Spirit until now—that the Gentiles would be heirs with Christ, part of His Body, and partakers of God's promise in Christ through the Gospel. This is the ministry God gave Paul and the power to carry it out.

3:8-13, this is what God gave to Paul even though he didn't deserve it in the slightest, the privilege to preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ and to reveal to all, especially Satan and his minions, God's genius in accomplishing His eternal purpose through the mystery plan He kept hidden forever: how the Church [comprised of humans—Jews and Gentiles] would not only be created in His Son, Jesus Christ, but give humanity bold and confident access to God Himself. Thus Paul asks the Ephesians not to be discouraged by his imprisonment because preaching the Gospel to Gentiles brought them into the Church and thereby into personal relationship with God the Father.

3:14-19, [Paul resumes his prayer, thus] he gets on his knees and asks God, the Father of us all, to strengthen the Ephesians through His Spirit with mighty inner strength so that Christ may dwell in their hearts, so that they would be able to experience Christ's love four dimensionally, so that ultimately God would fill them with ALL His fullness.

3:20-21, since God the Father is able to [accomplish this incredible feat of bringing us into personal relationship with Him and His Son] which is beyond anything we could ever ask or imagine, all the glory we can produce through the power of Christ should go to Him forever and ever.

Whole Chapter

[In light of everything God's done for us through our permanent union with His Son Jesus Christ, in other words, when we were completely dead and following after Satan God saved us by grace, i.e., He united us to His Son's life, resurrection, and royal position. Where Jews and Gentiles were once enemies, God has now united us together in Christ. This gave us intimate access to God the Father through His Spirit, who is now building us together in Christ into a holy temple where God, Himself, will dwell] Paul interrupts his prayer to give the Ephesians further details about the ministry God gave him as the apostle to the Gentiles: God personally revealed to Paul that the Gentiles would be heirs with Christ, part of His Body, and partakers of God's promise in Christ through the Gospel. And He wanted Paul to reveal this to all, especially Satan and his minions, to show them how incredible God's genius is that He would create the Church [out of humans—Jews and Gentiles] in His Son, Jesus Christ. This would give humanity bold and confident access to God Himself. As Paul resumes his prayer, he asks God the Father to strengthen the Ephesians through His Spirit with mighty inner strength so that Christ may dwell in their hearts, so that they would be able to experience Christ's love four dimensionally, so that ultimately God would fill them with ALL His fullness. And since God the Father is able to [accomplish this incredible feat of bringing us into personal relationship with Him and His Son] which is beyond anything we could ever ask or imagine, all the glory we can produce through the power of Christ should go to Him forever and ever. Amen.