#### Series "Riches In Christ" "Comfort Your Hearts" Ephesians 6:21-24 Part-33

**C. S. Lewis,** in **"Mere Christianity"** Aim at Heaven and you will get earth 'thrown in': aim at earth and you will get neither."

In closing, Paul has been speaking about the importance of prayer and now he speaks about his present circumstances.

Paul sends a dear faithful friend to update his circumstances.

Paul wants to close with a final encouragement from our heavenly Father.

**Thought of The Passage:** "Paul's Comfort To The Believers Is The Result Of God's Blessings Of Riches In The Heavenlies In Christ"

### **1. Verses 21-22 Paul's Comfort: 2. Verses 23-24 God's Grace:**

## 1. Verses 21-22 Paul's Comfort:

**Ephesians 6:21 But** Paul now transitions from prayer to his personal circumstances, **that you also may know about my circumstances, how I am doing,** 

## Ephesians 6:18-20

It is important to know the facts if we are going to pray specifically.

Paul was a spiritual giant that soared in the heavenlies with the revelations given to him by God. Paul was on earth. (Transparent)

# James 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church

Real freedom is found through accountability. It is not safe nor biblical to do your own thing!

that you also may know about my circumstances, how I am doing, How are you doing! Are you accountable? **Tychicus** meaning *"fateful"* Fortunate. That describes this man of God.

Tychicus name is mentioned 5 times in Scripture.

- 1. **Tychicus** was from Asia and was chosen to bring an offering of relief to Jerusalem. **Acts 20:4**
- 2. Tychicus was sent out on mission trips. 2 Timothy 4:12; Titus 3:12
- 3. **Tychicus** delivered this letter, to Ephesus, Colossians, and Philemon. **Colossians 4:7**
- 4. Tychicus was assisting Paul while he was in prison. the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make everything known to you.

**the beloved brother** - This man was not only a Christian but was a close friend of Paul. They were made brothers by their heavenly father.

The term "Friend" has been defined as, "The first person who comes in when the whole world has gone out."

**faithful –** "persons who show themselves faithful in the transaction of business, the execution of commands, or the discharge of official duties"

"The Greatest Ability is Reliability!"

**minister -** diakonos "to run on errands, one who executes the commands of another, especially of a master; a servant, attendant, a waiter, one who serves food and drink"

Being faithful and being a servant always go together.

The term always denotes duty rather than office.

Apostles - "sent ones"

Evangelists - "barer of good news"

**Pastor/Teacher -** "shepherd of the flock" one who exercises care and practical instruction, feeders.

**Minister/Deacon** - was given to describe service in general, Christian service in particular. **The word is used 4 different ways.** 

- 1. Servant Spoke of a menial employee who served tables. John 2:5-9 Jesus at the wedding of Cana in Galilee
- 2. Service is often translated minister. Paul said that he was a servant –
  1 Corinthians 3:5 Paul wanted Timothy to be a good servant of God
  1 Timothy 4:6
- **3.** The office of service was given the name "deacon" servant. Acts 6:2 The apostles judged it wrong to leave the ministry to <u>wait on tables</u>

#### **4. It is not for men only but all.** Joanna and Susanna were distinguished for their service **Luke 8:2-3.** Phoebe **Romans 16:1 servant of the Church.**

**minister in the Lord, in the Lord,** Notice it is in the Lord. It is not enough to be a servant to others

will make everything known to you. everything clear.

Ephesians 6:22 I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know about us, He was Paul's representative to the Church.

Paul before the Ephesians elders knew that he was going to have to suffer, but that was not his concern. **Acts 20:35-38** 

# and that he may comfort your hearts.

comfort - "comforting and encouraging"

#### Colossians 4:7-8

Paul knew that a letter was not enough.

- 1. Paul prayed for them.
- 2. Paul wrote them a letter.
- 3. Paul could not go so he sent Tychicus in his place.

Paul was not thinking of himself in prison, he was thinking of others. We have to go beyond ourselves. (Paul's imprisonment caused him to write)

#### 2. Verses 23-24 God's Grace:

**Ephesians 6:23 Peace, love, faith, Grace be to the brethren,** This is strange because in Paul's Epistles he always say's **"grace and peace."** Paul reviews what he stated in his epistle (Letter) to them. Peace, be to the brethren, There is no peace apart from Jesus Christ.

That is what **Ephesians 1-3** is all about.

- 1. Peace *with* God we need reconciliation with God. That is where all peace begins. Through believing faith we have peace with God. **Romans 5:1**
- 2. Peace of God John 14:27

**Ephesians 1** Paul lays out for us all the spiritual blessings that the Father has for us. He tells all that the Father has done, what part Jesus has played and the work of the Holy Spirit. (God made peace with man.)

**Ephesians 2** Paul tells how this plan of salvation (peace) from the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, <u>works in an individual</u>. Then he speaks about how now as Christians we can have peace through Jesus Christ.

**Ephesians 3** Paul speaks about the mystery that God revealed to him, that God wanted to create a new man, a new society called the Church.

#### and love – 14 times in Ephesians

#### Romans 5:5; Ephesians 5:1-2

That is the first half of the book which is called doctrine, wealth, position of the Christian. The next half is the duty, walk, work, sanctification of the Christian.

**Ephesians 4:1** *worthy* - *is to balance, to weigh out.* He is saying that we need to live out the new life that God has given to us. Doctrine should lead to duty; we need to put legs to our doctrine.

with faith – 7 times in Ephesians. Faith and love always go together.

There is saving faith, and practical day to day faith.

Faith - must include *belief* and *trust*.

Ephesians 4:1-16 Walk in Unity. Ephesians 4:17-5:17 Walk in Purity. Ephesians 5:18- 6:9 Walk in Harmony. Ephesians 6:10-24 Walk in Victory.

from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 6:24 Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love. **Grace – 12 times** in **Ephesians**. "That is unmerited favor" It should have started with this, but Paul has a different angle here.

# be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love.

That's how you keep the grace of God flowing in your life, through the love of God.

#### Matthew 22:35-38

#### 1 Corinthians 16:22

#### **Application:**

- Paul's Comfort For The Believers Was A Result Of A Life That Had Been Transformed By The Grace Of God. Paul Had Learned That It Was More Blessed To Give Than To Receive.
- **2.** God's Peace Is The Result Of God's Grace Which Arises From Every Spiritual Blessing Poured Out Upon The Believer In Christ.