

EXCEEDING, ABUNDANT POWER—IN US!

Ephesians 3:14-21

Major problem — power failure in the life of the Christian

We have trouble believing 3:20 -- “within *us!*”

Context: Chapters 1, 2, & 3, tells you who you are.

Then beginning in chapter 4 he describes what to DO. Between the two (3:14-21) he tells you “How To Start Your Engine.” There are five steps to get your ignition on and get rolling!

I. _____ STRENGTH (v. 14-16)

A. Strengthened with power thru His Spirit *in your inner being.*

1. “According to the riches of His glory” (Eph 1:7, Phil 4:19). Not according to your talent, ability, works, etc.

B. Not a request for the Holy Spirit to enter your life, but for Him to dominate and fill your life.

1. It is that power that you need to be victorious over Satan, temptation, the world, desires of the flesh

2. You, on your own, do not have this power

3. I John 4:4, Ephesians 5:18, II Cor. 12:7-10

II. _____ CHRIST (17A)

A. “Dwell” = “settle down” (idea of total comfort)

a. Can Christ be “in” ones heart, and not be totally comfortable?

b. Can take Christ where he would NEVER choose to go (He can’t “settle down” and be at home)

B. Book, My Heart, Christ's Home by Robert Munger

- a. Begins in Library (brain)
- b. Dining Room (place of appetite)
- c. Living Room (place of fellowship)
- d. Workshop (place where work is done)
- e. Once the entire house is clean and in order—then He can settle down and be at home, just doing normal maintenance and cleaning

III. INCOMPREHENSIBLE _____ (v.17-19)

- A. Love is the byproduct of Christ filling your life
 - a. You will be “rooted and established”
 - b. “surpasses knowledge” (world cannot understand it)
- B. Notice the sequence: 1) Holy Spirit strengthens the inner man, 2) Christ enters and settles down on your heart, and 3) You experience and understand the love of Christ.

IV. INFINITE _____ (19b)

- A. God's fullness—He can do *anything He wants* through me. (His glory—my goal; His will—my joy)
- B. Your life begins to demonstrate the character of God.

V. INDESCRIBABLE _____

- A. “Immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine
- B. We have not begun to see what could be done

VI. MUST NOT FAIL TO SEE V. 21 (KEEPS US FROM PRIDE)

- A. “To Him be the glory...”
- B. That's *why* He empowers you—so that others may see who He is, and He might receive glory!