

“The Hope of Your Calling: Ephesians 1:18-19”

Eleveth Sunday after Trinity – August 23, 2020

Sermon Notes – Craig Anderson – Holy Trinity Chico

1. Introduction

a. ¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. [1]

b. Introductory thoughts

- i. The prayer has a _____ nature to it
- ii. Wisdom, revelation, knowledge (of God), enlightened eyes of the heart, hope of calling, riches of His inheritance, power for those who believe.

- 1. Compare with Isaiah _____
- 2. In the dialogue about _____ of the Spirit vs _____ of the Spirit, we need to include _____ from the Spirit.

c. After praying that the Holy Spirit will give them greater revelation to know God, Paul prays for them to have enlightenment or understanding about three things.

- i. _____ of their calling
- ii. Riches of His glorious _____ in His Holy people
- iii. His incomparably great _____

for us who believe.

2. “I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened

a. Literally reads: having been enlightened, the eyes of your heart

b. Heart:

i. The heart was considered to refer to the entire inner person – the mind, will and _____.

c. Eyes –

i. “The eyes are the window to your _____” William Shakespeare

ii. Matt. 6:22 “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! NIV

iii. Other verses: Acts 26: 17-18, Eph. 4:18, Eph. 5:8

iv. Your spiritual eyes have been opened. God has given or is giving us spiritual sight which allows His revelation to illuminate our entire inner being.

d. Enlightenment – Root word “Photizo”

- i. Used for “bring to light”, give light, illuminate, shine, etc.
- ii. Hebrews 6:4 and 10:32, John 8:12, Acts 26:17-18
- iii. A key thought related to the gospel is that Jesus is the light and we need God to open our eyes to see the Gospel.

e. Summary: to have the eyes of the heart enlightened is to receive revelation so that we understand spiritual truths clearly.
f. Conclusion: Just as Paul was praying that they would have revelation to know God better, He is also praying that they will have revelation about 3 things. Although they have already been enlightened through the Gospel, his prayer to God is for this revelation to increase and become clearer.

3. Hope to which He has called you

- a. Either Calling or Hope are elevated OR like a pair of binoculars – need to understand both.
- b. Calling – Eph 3:20 – 4:1, 4-6

i. ²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. **4** As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.^[2] **4** There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism;^[3]

ii. Play on words

- 1. Calling with which you have been called
- 2. Klesis (noun), Kaleo (verb), Urge (parakaleo)

3. Ekklesia – Called out
 - a. Greek translation of _____
 - b. Assembly or _____ (Acts 19:32,39, 40 – secular)
 - c. Church: Worldwide _____ of God who have been called out of the Kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of God as well as Local Congregations
4. The concept of our calling is rooted in the idea of _____
 - a. The called _____ ones, or called together ones.
 - b. Called out of our spiritual Egypts, the Kingdom of Darkness, and called together at a spiritual Mt. Sinai to become the new people of God.
 - i. Hos. 11:1 – Out of Egypt I called my son
 - iii. On this basis, what

does the NT tell us about our calling:

1. Ro 9:24–26, 1 Co 1:9,1 Th 2:12, 2 Th 2:13–14,
2. In Ephesians 1, Paul is looking forward to the rest of the letter where he is going to describe the calling they have received, although he will not use those terms. By the time we get to chapter 4 he is looking back at the glorious revelation he has just given about who they now are, i.e., their calling.
3. Eph 2:15–22 - His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, 16 and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put

to death their hostility. 18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. 19 Consequently, you are...fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. 21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. 22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. NIV

4. Our calling

- a. God has called us to be _____ to Himself through the Lord Jesus Christ and to have direct access to Him as our Father.
- b. God has called us to belong to His worldwide _____, which is made up of people from all cultures and ages, and men and women. We are to be reconciled to one another.
- c. We are called to be _____ to Jesus, and together with Him to be the _____ of God, the Holy Spirit and the dwelling place of God here on earth in the present age.
- d. As the people of God, we are called to reveal to Him to the _____ (and even the _____ world) around us.
- e. This was always God's plan _____, it was His _____ purpose from the beginning of time.

5. The rest of Ephesians is about how to live and behave towards one another in a way that grows

and builds up the church rather than damages and hinders it.

c. Hope

i. Usually when we think about hope we are thinking about something we desire that is not yet certain. Biblical hope refers to something that is already certain just not yet obtained.

1. Examples:

2. Ps. 130:5-6 – I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord, more than watchmen wait for the

ii. Jesus is

_____ – Titus 2:14

1. while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,¹⁴

iii.

_____ from the dead and

_____ into his likeness – Acts 23:6, 1 Jn. 3:2-3

iv. _____ Life –

Titus 3:7 -

v. All of creation will be redeemed and restored - Rom. 8:23-25

vi. Inheritance – Eph.

1:18, 1:14 – All that God has in store for us, of which the Holy Spirit is just a deposit, is also part of our hope!

vii. The Hope contained in our calling is that since we belong to the one people of God who are joined to Jesus and filled with His Spirit, we will rise from the dead, receive transformed and immortal bodies, live together with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the redeemed and renewed creation (new heavens and earth) and inherit everything God has promised. And this will come about at the sure and certain return of Christ!

4. Conclusion: Why do we need to know the hope of our calling?

a. Eternal hope is the anchor for _____ hope

b. It inspires us to continue _____ the Lord and one another in this age, because we know that it is not a _____ of time, but has eternal value.

i. 1 Cor 15:56-58 (1 Thes 1:3)

c. Anchor for _____ and _____

i. Col. 1:3-6 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you,⁴ because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people—⁵ the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel⁶ that has come to you.^[4]

ii. _____ is the basis for faith and love

5. Conclusion:

a. Paul prays for us to know the Hope of our calling because we need to know who and what we are in this age and the one to come and what we have been called to do in this age and the one to come. Second, because knowing this becomes a powerful motivator for hope filled endurance in present difficulties, as an encouragement for us to walk in love in our relationships and to inspire us to give ourselves fully to the work of the Lord. Because nothing we do in serving God is worthless or wasted, but it all has value.

[1] [The New International Version](#). (2011). (Eph 1:15–19). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

[2] [The New International Version](#). (2011). (Eph 3:20–4:1). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

[3] [The New International Version](#). (2011). (Eph 4:4–5). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

[4] [The New International Version](#). (2011). (Col 1:3–6). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.