

## *"His Power To Us-Ward"*

by Tom Wacaster

Have you ever given serious consideration to the words of Paul in Ephesians 1:15-23? I don't mean, 'Have you read them?' because most of us have probably read the passage many times over. But have you ever meditated on that rather lengthy sentence which has been given by inspiration of the Holy Spirit? Let me select some words out of that passage and elaborate on them:

"For this cause I also....cease not to give thanks...and make mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ...may give unto you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him; having the eyes of your heart enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of his calling, what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe."

I know I left out some words, not to hide the truth, but to draw attention to this statement "exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe." What power are you talking about Paul? Answer: That which is "according to the working of his might...which he wrought in Christ when he raised him from the dead, and made him to sit at his right hand." I wonder if we have realized the truth of that passage. There is power available to us. It is greater than the electricity generated by the water that flows over Niagara Falls. It surpasses the power of man made explosives (including the atom bomb). Now consider this "power" to us-ward.

First is that same power that raised Jesus from the dead. And what was that power? Very simply, it was the spoken word of God Almighty. That is all it took. Since Jesus is Divine, the power which He demonstrated when He walked upon the earth is the same power. Jesus simply said, "Lazarus, come forth," and it was so. No side show; no smoke and mirrors; no external power source; no waiving of the hands; no chemical drugs applied; simply the spoken word. So it is with God. He simply spoke, and it was so.

Second, that same power is available to us today. "You mean to tell me preacher, that God speaks today? ABSOLUTELY! Listen to the writer of Hebrews: "God, having of old time spoken unto the fathers in the prophets by divers portions and in divers manners, hath at the end of these days spoken unto us in his Son" (Heb. 1:1-2). Paul, through inspiration, informs us that the Gospel is "the power of God unto salvation" (Rom. 1:16-17). Wisdom and understanding come from that same source. You are not going to get some "vision in the night," nor will you hear some "small still voice." God calls us through the Gospel (2 Thess. 2:14), and He instructs us, leads us, guides us, strengthens us, and builds us up through that word, and that word alone. Paul said the Gospel, the word of God, is THE power. Not "a" power, or "some" power, but "the power." Hence, all that I need to attain unto salvation, live the godly live in Christ, and ultimately win the crown of eternal life is in that little volume of 66 books that most of us possess. Every single word, sentence, chapter, and book is dynamite (that is actually the word translated "power" - the word 'dunamos') available to every single man, woman, and child, to attain unto a godly and profitable life. Unfortunately, too many neglect that power, never reading it or studying it. Others read it only occasionally. Only those who read and study it regularly and consistently can ever hope to access that power that will enlighten our hearts unto salvation. As one has pointed out, the Bible....

Gives light to those in darkness,  
And help to those in need;  
Gives comfort to those in sorrow

And blessing to those who heed.  
It is the Christian's compass  
His staff, his sword, and guide;  
And from all foes along his path  
Here he may safely hide.  
O! Soul awake, and on it stand  
Give heed to each command;  
That I may have an entrance in  
To that celestial land.