**August 20, 2017 “Filled to All the Fullness” Ephesians 3:19-21**

Today we are going to wrap up our study of the first three chapters of Ephesians. As I have explained previously, the Book of Ephesians is really divided into two sections with a triggering mechanism built in-between.

So, what have we learned in the first chapters? It is essentially this…

We are even elevated above the angels so that the angels look at us to see the things they cannot comprehend. We have been purchased for God through the blood of Jesus, forgiven, accepted in the beloved. We’ve become slaves and sons of God. Forever His possession. Sealed with the Spirit. Protected by divine love, sustained by divine providence, energized by divine power. We are priests, we are kings, we have been taught and led and ruled and loved and made alive and built up and blessed by the Lord Jesus Christ. We are thus as we have seen, the possessors of the unsearchable riches of Jesus Christ as it reminds us in chapter 3 verse 8. We are rich because we are one with Jesus Christ and we are also blessed “with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ”.

All of the things mentioned are what God has done for the believer. Notice I said… has done. You and I have had no input nor have we done anything to acquire these things. Why not?

All of this is so that God would receive the Glory and Honor that is due His Name. This is where all the power for the Christian life is stored. If you and I have any other goal in life other than to live for the Glory of God, we will always get bogged down into the minutia of religion that exemplifies itself in rules and regulations.

Do you remember the definition of Grace that I have given you in the past? It is this: “love the Lord your God with all you heart, with all your mind, with all your strength and with all your soul and then live like you want to”.

How will you live? I Corinthians 10:31-33

How can we do this?

1. Ephesians 3:14-21
   1. Strengthened in the inner man
      1. Through the Word of God
   2. Christ may dwell in your heart
      1. That He may be comfortable in your heart
      2. Proverbs 4:20-27
      3. Psalm 119:9-16
   3. In order that you being rooted and grounded in love
      1. When Christ dwells in your heart
      2. You cannot help but to be filled with love
         1. I Peter 4:7-8
         2. Philippians 2:3-5
2. Ephesians 3:19-21
   1. “In order that” you may be filled to all the fullness of God?
      1. Now it is one thing to be
         1. Ephesians3:16… strengthened by the Holy Spirit
         2. Ephesians3:17… have Christ dwell in your heart
         3. Ephesians3:17b-18… rooted and grounded in love
   2. But it is mind-boggling to be “filled with the fullness of God”
      1. What can that possibly mean?
         1. Genesis 1:1
         2. Job 38-39
   3. “pleeroo”… Greek word for “fullness”
      1. Connotation to “take over completely?
         1. Filled with indignation
         2. Filled with rage… etc.
      2. II Samuel 22
         1. David’s song of the presence of God in his life
3. How will this impact my life?
   1. Christians like to major on the minors
      1. Should women wear pants?
      2. Should women have long hair? Or wear make-up?
      3. Should Christians smoke?
      4. Should Christians drink alcohol?
      5. Should Christians get tattoos?
      6. Should Christians go to the movies?
      7. Should Christians watch R rated movies?
   2. I think… you Du-fi
      1. Don’t know what a du-fi is?
      2. Greek word for “double dufus”
   3. Focus on the major!!!!!!
      1. The God who made all this world and holds it together by His power
      2. Wants to fill you with all His fullness!!!!!!
4. For what reason?
   1. To Him
      1. Be glory
         1. Where?
            1. In this church!!!!!!
   2. Can you imagine the change in your life and in mine?
      1. Do all things for His glory
         1. To all generations
            1. Young… old and in-between
   3. Wouldn’t that be a legacy to your parents and to your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren?