

TO MOVE BEYOND CULTURAL CHRISTIANITY

GOING DEEP - BOOK OF EPHESIANS - PART #1

Pastor Kevin Cummings – July 12, 2020

Ephesians 1:1-23

I. I must understand the _____ of the church.

A. God the _____ the church. (v. 1-6)

- We are _____.
 1. Predestination means God knows who will be saved but in no way forces His will on them. (Romans 8:29)
 2. Predestination does not mean that God sends some to hell. People choose hell.

B. God the _____ for and builds the church.
(v. 7-10; Matthew 16:18)

- We are _____.
 1. Redemption means I am free from the power and effect of sin. (Book of Ruth; Romans 6:1-23)
 2. Redemption does not mean I can live as I want.

C. God the _____ the church. (v. 11-14)

- We are _____.
 1. Eternal security means once saved, always saved.
(Jude 24; John 10:28; Ephesians 4:30; I Peter 1:4; Romans 8:38-39)
 2. Eternal security does not mean I won't reap what I sow or suffer loss of rewards if I'm disobedient.

II. I must understand the _____ of the church.

A. We should pray when we hear _____ news, not just when we hear bad news.(v. 15-16)

B. We should pray for those who are _____ in their faith, not just for those who aren't committed. (v. 17-19)

1. Note what Paul does not pray for:
 - That God would change their circumstances.
 - That God would destroy the false worship.
 - That God would punish those who deserve it.
2. Note what Paul does pray for:
 - That they may know God better.
 - That they may know the hope of God.
 - That they may know they have a home in heaven.
 - That they may know there is help available.

III. I must understand the _____ of the church.

A. The description of God's power. (v. 19)

1. Note it is God's power, not _____.
2. Note the key to God's power is _____.

B. The _____ of God's power. (v. 20-23)

1. In the past is the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
2. In the future is the exaltation of Jesus Christ.
3. In the present is the church.
 - The church is a living organism, not an organization.
 - The church is a body, not a building or a business.
 - The church is to be full of power, not programs.

ACTION POINTS: 1.) Cultural Christianity is _____ true Christianity.

2.) Since as a Christian I am predestined, redeemed and eternally secure, I should live for Jesus by _____.

3.) I'll never go deep (love God and love others even more) until I really understand the _____.

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GOING DEEP - BOOK OF EPHESIANS - PART #1

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Ephesians 1:1-23

I. I must understand the origin of the church.

A. God the Father planned the church. (v. 1-6)

- We are predestined.
 1. Predestination means God knows who will be saved but in no way forces His will on them. (Romans 8:29)
 2. Predestination does not mean that God sends some to hell. People choose hell.

B. God the Son paid for and builds the church.
(v. 7-10; Matthew 16:18)

- We are redeemed.
 1. Redemption means I am free from the power and effect of sin. (Book of Ruth; Romans 6:1-23)
 2. Redemption does not mean I can live as I want.

C. God the Holy Spirit protects the church. (v. 11-14)

- We are eternally secure.
 1. Eternal security means once saved, always saved.
(Jude 24; John 10:28; Ephesians 4:30; I Peter 1:4; Romans 8:38-39)
 2. Eternal security does not mean I won't reap what I sow or suffer loss of rewards if I'm disobedient.

II. I must understand the prayer of the church.

A. We should pray when we hear good news, not just when we hear bad news. (v. 15-16)

B. We should pray for those who are growing in their faith, not just for those who aren't committed. (v. 17-19)

1. Note what Paul does not pray for:
 - That God would change their circumstances.
 - That God would destroy the false worship.
 - That God would punish those who deserve it.
2. Note what Paul does pray for:
 - That they may know God better.
 - That they may know the hope of God.
 - That they may know they have a home in heaven.
 - That they may know there is help available.

III. I must understand the power of the church.

A. The description of God's power. (v. 19)

1. Note it is God's power, not our power.
2. Note the key to God's power is belief.

B. The demonstration of God's power. (v. 20-23)

1. In the past is the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
2. In the future is the exaltation of Jesus Christ.
3. In the present is the church.
 - The church is a living organism, not an organization.
 - The church is a body, not a building or a business.
 - The church is to be full of power, not programs.

ACTION POINTS: 1.) Cultural Christianity is not true Christianity.

2.) Since as a Christian I am predestined, redeemed and eternally secure, I should live for Jesus by going deep.

3.) I'll never go deep (love God and love others even more) until I really understand the church.