

Praying to Know Jesus

Ephesians 1:15-23

What to Pray for other Believers

Pray for...

- A Spirit of _____ and _____ in the knowledge of Christ.

- Eyes of their heart may be enlightened in His:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

Why we Pray for other Believers

Why is knowing Jesus personally so important?

- Raised from the Dead
- Seated at the right hand of the Father
- Above EVERY ruler, authority, power, dominion, every title given
- Everything is subject to Him
- Head over the Church
- Fullness of all Things

Jesus is the Sufficient One

Message Reflection:

- *The Knowledge of the Holy* – A. W. Tozer
- What did this passage teach you about prayer?
- What is missing in your prayer life?
- What practical difference would it make if we understood our hope, inheritance and power better?

A. W. Tozer

Almighty God, just because He is almighty, needs no support. The picture of a nervous, ingratiating God fawning over men to win their favor is not a pleasant one; yet if we look at the popular conception of God, that is precisely what we see. Twentieth century Christianity has put God on charity. So lofty is our opinion of ourselves that we find it quite easy, not to say enjoyable, to believe that we are necessary to God. But the truth is that God is not greater for our being, nor would He be less if we did not exist. That we do exist is altogether of God's free determination, not by our desert nor by divine necessity.

Probably the hardest thought of all for our natural egotism to entertain is that God does not need our help. We commonly represent Him as a busy, eager, somewhat frustrated Father hurrying about seeking help to carry out His benevolent plan to bring peace and salvation to the world; but, as said the Lady Julian, "I saw truly that God doeth all-thing, be it never so little." The God who worketh all things surely needs no help and no helpers.

Too many missionary appeals are based upon this fancied frustration of Almighty God. An effective speaker can easily excite pity in his hearers, not only for the heathen but for the God who has tried so hard and so long to save them and has failed for want of support. I fear that thousands of young persons enter Christian service from no higher motive than to help deliver God from the embarrassing situation His love has gotten Him into and His limited abilities seem unable to get Him out of. Add to this a certain degree of commendable idealism and a fair amount of compassion for the underprivileged, and you have the true drive behind much Christian activity today.

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