



**WHO IN THE WORLD  
DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?**

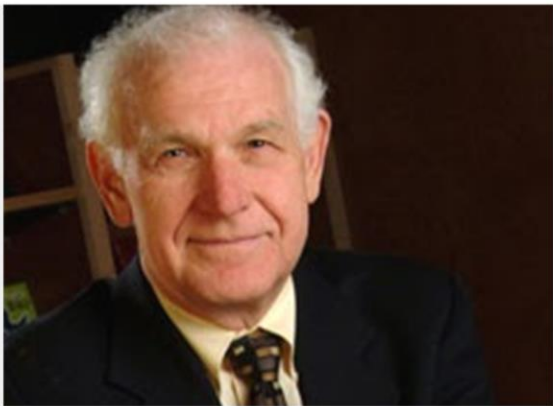
*A STUDY IN EPHESIANS*

# **The Prayer of Paul and the Power of God**

**11 The greatest among you  
will be your servant.**

**Matthew 23:11**

“The purpose of Ephesians is to promote a love for one another that has the love of God and Christ as its basis.”



Harold Hoehner,  
*Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*

<sup>15</sup> For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, <sup>16</sup> I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup> 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.

**Ephesians 1:15-23**

<sup>18</sup> I pray also 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 the saints, <sup>19</sup> and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, <sup>20</sup> which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,

**Ephesians 1:15-23**

<sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

**Ephesians 1:15-23**

# **1. The Premise of the Prayer**

The background of the slide is a dark, atmospheric landscape. It features silhouettes of mountains and hills in the foreground and middle ground, set against a twilight sky with a gradient from deep blue to dark brown. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.



<sup>8</sup> The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, <sup>9</sup> for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, <sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

**1 Thessalonians 1:8-10**

<sup>35</sup> By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

**John 13:35**

<sup>12</sup> May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.

**1 Thessalonians 3:12**

<sup>16</sup> I have not stopped giving  
thanks for you, remembering  
you in my prayers.

**Ephesians 1:16**

**1. The Premise of the Prayer**

**2. The Persistence of His Prayers**

<sup>23</sup> As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you. And I will teach you the way that is good and right.

**1 Samuel 12:23**

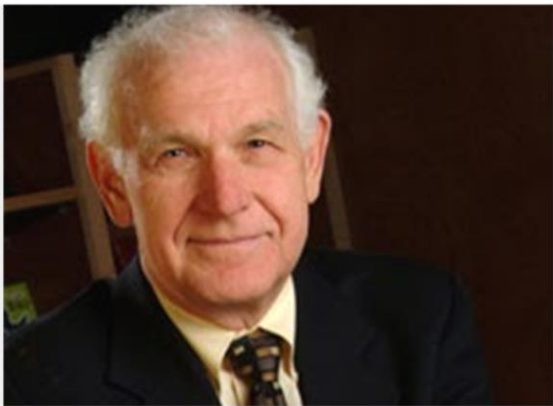
<sup>17</sup> I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

**Ephesians 1:17**

- 1. The Premise of the Prayer**
- 2. The Persistence of His Prayers**
- 3. The Petition of the Prayer**

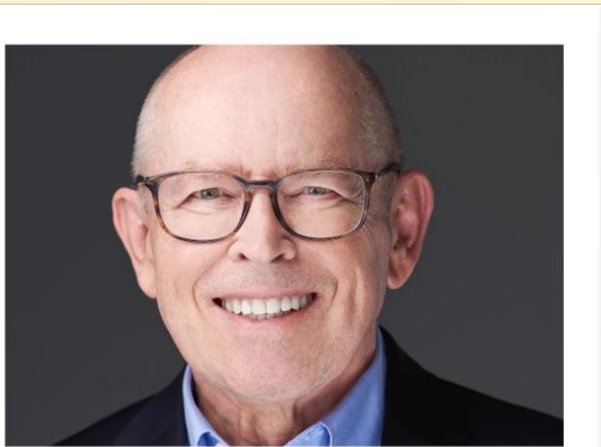


“The eye is metaphorically the avenue through which light flows to the heart or mind...Hence, the ‘eyes of the heart’ denotes enlightenment of thought and understanding.”



Harold Hoehner,  
*Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*

“Effective calling is an act of God the Father, speaking through the human proclamation of the gospel, in which he summons people to himself in such a way that they respond in saving faith.”



Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*

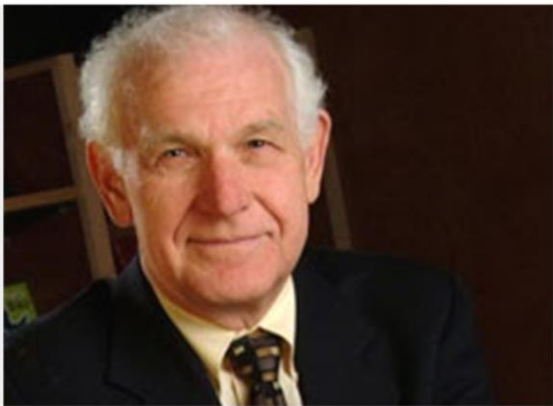
“One of those listening was a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul’s message.”

Acts 16:14

<sup>2</sup> To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours:

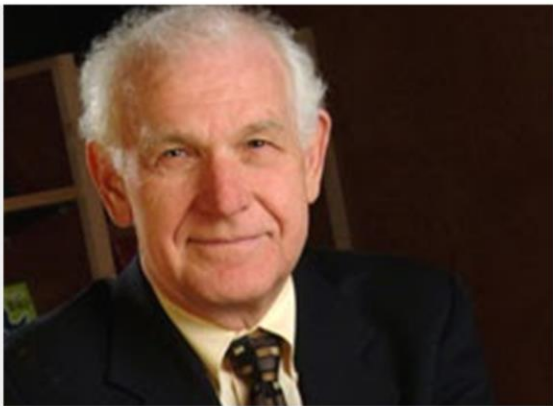
**1 Corinthians 1:2**

“It shows that the believers are valuable to God because he purchased them in order to inherit them.”



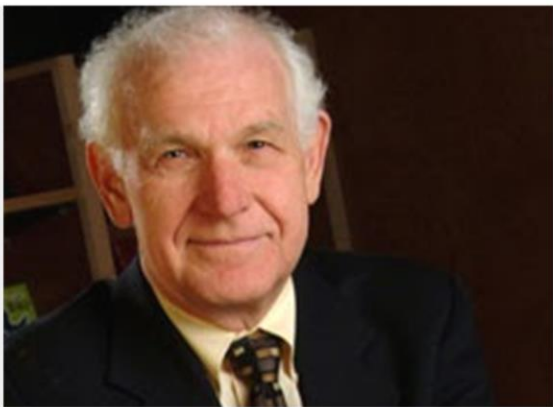
Harold Hoehner,  
*Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*

“This inheritance will be fully realized in the future.”



Harold Hoehner,  
*Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*

“Therefore, whereas the hope that was produced by his calling looked back to the past, his inheritance in the saints will be fully realized in Christ’s coming to get his saints.”



Harold Hoehner,  
*Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*

- 1. The Premise of the Prayer**
- 2. The Persistence of His Prayers**
- 3. The Petition of His Prayer**
- 4. The Power of the Provider**



**14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also.**

**1 Corinthians 6:14**

<sup>4</sup> and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Romans 1:4**

<sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

**Philippians 3:10**

<sup>1</sup> The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”

**Psalm 110:1**

- 1. The right hand of the Majesty in heaven (Hebrews 1:3)**
- 2. At my right hand (Hebrews 1:13)**
- 3. At the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven (Hebrews 8:1)**
- 4. At the right hand of God (Hebrews 10:12)**
- 5. At the right hand of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:2)**

# **The Purpose of the Passage**

<sup>10</sup> Fear thou not; for I am with thee: Be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; Yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

**Isaiah 41:10**

<sup>16</sup> I pray that out of his glorious riches he  
may strengthen you with power  
through his Spirit in your inner being,

**Ephesians 3:16**



<sup>13</sup> May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

**1 Thessalonians 3:13**

<sup>16</sup> And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God.

1 Samuel 23:16

<sup>2</sup> We sent Timothy, who is our brother and God's fellow worker in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith,

**1 Thessalonians 3:2**