Ephesians 2013 Lessons 41 and 42

The Doctrines in Chapter 3

Satisfying the Requirements of Good Relationship with God for His Family

- Psalms 66:18 If I perceive sin in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.
- Psalms 32:5 I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.
 - I Cor 11:31 But if we judge ourselves rightly, we should not be judged.
- 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all other unrighteousness

Satisfying the Requirements of Joining God's Family for Everyone Else

- Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you are saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of how good we are, so that no one may boast.
- Rom. 11:6, "But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of how good we are, otherwise grace is no longer grace."
- Gal. 2:21, "I do not nullify the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the following rules, then Christ died needlessly."
- Gal. 3:24, "Therefore the rules of the Jewish Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by trusting."

Satisfying the Requirements of Joining God's Family for Everyone Else

- 1 Corinthians 3:11 There is nothing else salvation can be built upon, only Jesus Christ.'
- John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever trusts in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."
- "Trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved" Acts 16:31

Privately praying to God the Father that you trust what Christ has done, not what you can do, is the method of salvation.

3 1FOR THIS reason [ibecause I preached that you are thus built up together], I, Paul, [am] the prisoner of Jesus the Christ ifor the sake and on behalf of you Gentiles...

2 Assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace (His unmerited favor) that was entrusted to me [to dispense to you] for your benefit,

- 4 When you read this you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ.
- 5 [This mystery] was never disclosed to human beings in past generations as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles (consecrated messengers) and prophets by the [Holy] Spirit.

6 [It is this:] that the Gentiles are now to be fellow heirs [with the Jews], members of the same body and joint partakers [sharing] in the same divine promise in Christ through [their acceptance of] the glad tidings (the Gospel).

7 Of this [Gospel] I was made a minister according to the gift of God's free grace (undeserved favor) which was bestowed on me by the exercise (the working in all its effectiveness) of His power.

8 To me, though I am the very least of all the saints (God's consecrated people), this grace (favor, privilege) was granted and graciously entrusted: to proclaim to the Gentiles the unending (boundless, fathomless, incalculable, and exhaustless) riches of Christ [wealth which no human being could have searched out],

9 Also to enlighten all men and make plain to them what is the plan [regarding the Gentiles and providing for the salvation of all men] of the mystery kept hidden through the ages and concealed until now in [the mind of] God Who created all things by Christ Jesus.

10 [The purpose is] that through the church the kcomplicated, many-sided wisdom of God in all its infinite variety and innumerable aspects might now be made known to the angelic rulers and authorities (principalities and powers) in the heavenly sphere.

11 This is in accordance with the terms of the eternal and timeless purpose which He has realized and carried into effect in [the person of] Christ Jesus our Lord,

12 In Whom, because of our faith in Him, we dare to have the boldness (courage and confidence) of free access (an unreserved approach to God with freedom and without fear).

13 So I ask you not to lose heart [not to faint or become despondent through fear] at what I am suffering in your behalf. [Rather glory in it] for it is an honor to you.

14 For this reason [seeing the greatness of this plan by which you are built together in Christ], I bow my knees before the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 For Whom every family in heaven and on earth is named [that Father from Whom all fatherhood takes its title and derives its name].

16 May He grant you out of the rich treasury of His glory to be strengthened and reinforced with mighty power in the inner man by the [Holy] Spirit [Himself indwelling your innermost being and personality].

through your faith
[actually] dwell (settle
down, abide, make
His permanent home)
in your hearts! May
you be rooted deep in
love and founded
securely on love,

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18 That you may have the power and be strong to apprehend and grasp with all the saints [God's devoted people, the experience of that love] what is the breadth and length and height and depth [of it];

Ephesians 3:19a

19 [That you may really come] to know [practically, "through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ, which far surpasses "mere knowledge [without experience]; that you may be filled [through all your being]

Ephesians 3:19b

of God [may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and plecome a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself]!

20 Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams]—

21 To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever. Amen (so be it). - Amplified Bible