

God Will Fight for You

Eph 3:14–21. (NIV)

Verse 14–15 Prayer: note four things about the prayer.

- The prayer was for a specific cause, a specific purpose.
- *The prayer was so important that it drove Paul to his knees.*
- *The prayer addresses God as the Father and Jesus Christ came into the world to reveal God.*
- The prayer was addressed to the Father of the whole family of God

Verse 3:16 Power and Holy Spirit: the first request is for strength and power in the inner man, for the strength and power of God's Spirit, for His presence and power in our lives.

- The word strengthen means to be made strong, tough, *enduring*. It means to have energy or force; to act, endure, or resist.
- The word power means force, energy, might.

VS. 17 the word “*to dwell*”

Means the believer must make room in their heart for the word of Christ.

Verse 17 Heart

THE WORD MEANS...A person's inward life, inner self, mind.

Application

In the Bible the word “heart” refers to both the major organ of the body (Leviticus 17:11) and to the most important part of a person, that is, to man's innermost being.

Verse 17: Jesus Christ, *Indwelling Presence*: the second request is for Christ to *dwell*, that is, rule and reign, in our hearts—by faith. *The word “dwell” means a permanent not a temporary dwelling. What then does this request mean? Just what the verse says:*

- That Christ would be at home and live in a permanent sense within the believer.
- That the believer would be aware and conscious of Christ within his heart—always aware and conscious that Christ has taken up residence within him.

Verse 17: Jesus Christ, *Indwelling Presence*...

- That the believer would let Christ control and guide his life—permanently and constantly—because Christ is at home in his heart.
- Christ dwells within the believer by faith. But also, that Biblical faith is not a wish or hope it is the Word is that which something is true. It is not perhaps something is true but perhaps it is not. *Biblical faith always means the belief and commitment of a person's life to truth and reality; it is a belief and commitment to fact.*

Vs 17: “And I pray that you being *rooted* and *established* in love...”

In the Greek New Testament, the term "*rooted*" primarily refers to being firmly established and deeply grounded, often in a spiritual context. It implies a state of stability and strength, drawing nourishment from a source, much like a plant's roots do from the soil.

“Established” The word means...

To be established; to be grounded; to be rooted; to make strong; to be fixed. It means to be grounded in Christ like the firm, solid foundation of a building.

Application:

This is the word that pictures the foundation of a building, the solid foundation that gives the greatest stability possible to a building. The believer must be so grounded in Christ that he can withstand the severest storms of life. (Matthew 7:24-27)

Verse 3:18 Understanding: a full understanding of spiritual things. It is crucial that the disciple of Christ grasp God's eternal plan.

- ⇒ the great blessings of God (Ep. 1:3–14).
- ⇒ the knowledge and power of God (Ep. 1:15–23).
- ⇒ the mercy and grace of God (Ep. 2:1–10).
- ⇒ the reconciliation and peace brought by Christ (Ep. 2:11–18).
- ⇒ the church: who and what it is (Ep. 2:19–22).
- ⇒ the new body of people God is forming, that is, the great mystery of Christ (Ep. 3:1–13).

Vs. 19

The Amplified New Testament “That you may be filled (through all your being) unto all the fullness of God ... [that is] may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself!”

Verse 3:19: is to know the love of Christ which surpasses all knowledge. It is utterly impossible to grasp and experience the love of Christ anywhere close to its full measure, but we should pray for God to help us learn more and more of His love.

Conclusion Verses 3:20–21: there is the encouragement to pray and to trust God for the answer.

God is able to do what we ask. Note just how strong and powerful God is. He is able to do ...

- ***“immeasurably”*: to surpass, go beyond any request.**
- ***“more”*: God will give us the bigger picture.**
- ***“imagine”*: to go beyond whatever we think is possible.**
- ***“All that we ask”*: God answers prayer**

What is God able to do?

- To fulfill promises even if they are humanly impossible.
- To make grace abound.
- To do exceedingly.
- To subdue all things.
- To guard the soul's treasure.
- To save to the ultimate.
- To keep from falling.

A simple formula to remember as a disciple...seek him, listen to him, trust him, obey him.