

Ghost Stories Part 4 October 24, 2021

Pastor Tim Lambert



I. INTRO

- A. Have you ever done something, knew someone or been a part of a team where the other person or team had an advantage? We refer to having special advantage, knowledge or favor as having "the inside track." In Ephesians 3, we find one of Apostle Paul's Spirit-led prayers that he prayed for the church at Ephesus. He wanted believers to be made aware of the inside track they had.
- B. Paul during his 1st Roman imprisonment writes to the churches of Ephesus:
 - Chapter 1 God the Father (designer of the plan, He chose us)
 - Chapter 2 Jesus the Son (executor of the plan, He redeemed us)
 - Chapter 3 Holy Spirit (revealer of the plan, He sealed us)

Ephesians 3:13-21 (NKJV)¹³ Therefore I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory. ¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to <u>be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man</u>, ¹⁷ that <u>Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith</u>; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be <u>able to comprehend</u> with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height— ¹⁹ to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may <u>be filled with all the fullness of God</u>. ²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, ²¹ to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

C. It would take a realization of the Holy Spirit at work within them for their individual authority over Satan to be enforced and applied against the works of darkness that was a present danger to their faith.

III. Grant you to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man

- A. To not experience the fellowship of the Holy Spirit is to live in Spiritual poverty.
 - Our spirit has to be nourished if we want to have the inside track on living a Spirit-filled life.

Ephesians 2:6 (NKJV) and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus,

- A. Spiritual Power
 - 1. Strength (Greek-Kratos) demonstrated power, a ruling power, manifested, tangible real supernatural power
 - 2. Might (Greek-Dunamis) miraculous power, inherent power, dynamite, dynamo (machine that produces electricity; someone with lots of energy)
- B. Spiritual Fortitude
 - 1. Conflicts
 - a. Resisting temptations
 - b. Overcoming trials and tribulations
 - 2. Kingdom work



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IV. That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith

- A. Dwell = Settle down, feel at home, not a temporary experience, but permanent and consistent relationship (Does He feel at home in you today?)
- B. Rooted in love
- C. Grounded in love

Galatians 5:6 (TPT) When you're joined to the Anointed One, circumcision and religious obligations can benefit you nothing. All that matters now is living in the faith that works and expresses itself through love.

1 John 4:16 (GW) We have known and believed that God loves us. God is love. Those who live in God's love live in God, and God lives in them.

V. Able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height

• His Words will never fade, lose power or fail in its purpose.

Mark 13:31 (NKJV) Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

VI. To know the love of Christ which passes knowledge

- A. Knowledge (Gnosis) man's
- B. Mental Assent
- C. Transforming love

1 John 5:20 (TPT) And we know that the Son of God has made our understanding come alive so that we can know by experience the One who is true. And we are in him who is true, God's Son, Jesus Christ—the true God and eternal life!

VII. Be filled with all the fullness of God

I firmly believe that the moment our hearts are emptied of pride and selfishness and ambition and self-seeking and every-thing that is contrary to God's law, the Holy Ghost will come and fill every corner of our hearts. —D. L. Moody

Ephesians 3:20-21 (AMP) ²⁰ Now to Him who is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think [infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams], according to His power that is at work within us, ²¹ to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever. Amen.