

The background of the entire image is a photograph of ancient stone ruins, likely from the Roman or Greek era. In the foreground, there are large, rectangular stone blocks arranged in a path or foundation. To the right, a high, curved stone wall is visible. In the distance, more ruins and some greenery are seen under a clear sky. A glowing orange cross is positioned on the right side of the image, partially overlapping the stone wall and the central text area.

Understanding Who I Am

# Ephesians

Becoming Who We Are

**True Enlightenment**

# Eph 1:15 – 23... True Enlightenment

Author of the Letter – Paul

Setting of the Church – Ephesus

Written to.... Believers, Friends, Fellow workers

So Far:

Chosen

Adopted

Redeemed

Inheritance

Sealed with Holy Spirit



# Eph 1:15 – 23... True Enlightenment

<sup>15</sup> For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, <sup>18</sup> having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

# Eph 1:15 – 23... True Enlightenment

<sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup> that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.



# Eph 1:15 – 23... True Enlightenment

## 1. Words of Encouragement

- 'I have heard' – reputation reported

### a) faith in the Lord Jesus

- clear growth in depth & practice

### b) love towards the Saints

- clear evidence of practice

- marks of those understanding who they are, growing deep in faith and practice with one another.

# Eph 1:15 – 23... True Enlightenment

## 2. Paul Prays for Them

- these special friends, believers that have seen much with him.

### a) Spirit of Wisdom

- ‘knowledge rightly applied’

### b) Revelation in the Knowledge of Him

- work of Spirit who seals us
- 4 levels of know



# Eph 1:15 – 23... True Enlightenment

## c) Eyes of Heart Enlightened

- see truth, veil pulled back
  - \* the hope to which He has called you
    - picture of what he is doing
  - \* riches of His glorious Inheritance
    - clear on what he has promised
  - \* Immeasurable Greatness of His Power
    - certain of his ability to accomplish

# Ephesians: 1:15 - 23



## 3. That Power and Authority Evidenced

- four ways that is evidenced in Christ

### a) raised from dead

- payment for sin accepted
- fear of death demolished – eternity secured

### b) seated at Father's Right Hand

- place of significance



# Ephesians: 1:15 - 23



## c) Given authority, power & dominion over...

- all things – earthly and heavenly
- forever – now and then

## d) To Church as its Head

- all that power and authority – given to church through Christ
- will bring fulfillment of His plan through the church, will be glorious

# Ephesians: 1:15 - 23



## So What?

1. Encourage and Build up those working hard to know and live for Christ.
  - Tell them the good things
2. Pray for One Another in real ways
  - wisdom to rightly apply what God is showing us
  - we might know Christ more deeply
  - we might see clearly that the truth of our hope, inheritance and the power of our father might guide our lives and decisions



# Ephesians: 1:15 - 23



3. Live with God's Power and Authority in mind
  - no fear of death or what man can do
  - knowing Jesus intercedes for us, we can approach boldly the throne of God
  - living free – outside of slavery and fear to principalities and powers, as Christ has all authority
  - connected to the bride and being directed by the head (Jesus)