



A PRAYER FOR
ASCENDING WISDOM
Ephesians 1:15-23

THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND REVELATION IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIM

Spirit

❖ “Spirit” as a disposition:

❖ **1 Corinthians 4:21; Galatians 6:1** – “*spirit of gentleness*”

❖ **Romans 8:15** – “*spirit of bondage...spirit of adoption*”

❖ **2 Timothy 1:7** – “*spirit of fear...power...love...sound mind*”

❖ Prayer for a disposition, quality, or character marked by
“*wisdom and revelation.*” – **2 Tim. 3:16-17; 1 Cor. 2:15-16**

THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND REVELATION IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIM

Wisdom and Revelation

- ❖ Wisdom coming from revelation – **Ephesians 3:3-4; 5:17** – knowing on a level producing practical wisdom.
- ❖ Become more acquainted with the gospel message – **Colossians 1:9** – knowledge, wisdom, spiritual understanding

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In the Knowledge of Him

- ❖ The specific content of the “*spirit of wisdom and revelation.*”
- ❖ Knowledge – *epignōsis* – Not simply an intellectual grasp on truth, but the uniting with truth by the practice of it.
 - ❖ **1 John 2:3-6** – keep commandments, keep word, walk as He walked.

ASCENDING WISDOM

Knowing the Hope of His Calling

- ❖ Context of those being addressed – we/us vs. you – Gentiles without hope now have hope (**Ephesians 2:11-13**).
- ❖ There is hope in His calling – **Ephesians 1:18**;
2 Thessalonians 2:14
- ❖ State of living without hope – **1 Corinthians 15:19, 32**
- ❖ State of living with hope – **1 Corinthians 15:33-34, 58**;
Romans 8:25

ASCENDING WISDOM

Knowing the Riches of the Glory of His Inheritance

❖ The inheritance – **1 Peter 1:3-4** – connection with Christ’s resurrection.

❖ Hope of a resurrection to a spiritual body –
1 Corinthians 15:19-23, 42-50

❖ The hope should lead to a life of purity – **1 John 3:1-3**

❖ Knowing the “*riches of the glory of His inheritance*” should translate in living like we belong somewhere else –
Philippians 3:20-4:1; 2 Peter 3:13

ASCENDING WISDOM

Knowing the Exceeding Greatness of His Power

- ❖ This power is working toward/in us to reach the realization of the inheritance.
- ❖ “*According to*” – i.e. real demonstrations of the power in the past.
 - ❖ **Ephesians 1:20-23** – resurrection, ascension, and dominion of Christ.
 - ❖ **Ephesians 2:1-10** – our spiritual resurrection/salvation for good works in Christ.

ASCENDING WISDOM

Knowing the Exceeding Greatness of His Power

- ❖ This power is working toward/in us to reach the realization of the inheritance.
- ❖ “*toward us who believe*” – present active verb – i.e. it not only has worked, but is working in us as we believe.
 - ❖ **1 Peter 1:5** – kept by power of God through faith (cf. Romans 1:16; 10:17).
 - ❖ **2 Peter 1:2-4, 10-11** – partaking of the Divine nature.
 - ❖ **2 Peter 3:18** – knowing God’s power by growing in grace and knowledge.



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