

## **“EXCEEDINGLY, ABUNDANTLY, ABOVE ALL”**

Eph 3:14-21

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. The ability of God exceeds all imagination.
- B. Scripture consistently promises infinity
- C. God is Omniscient (all knowing), Omnipotent (all powerful), and Omnipresent (everywhere at once)

### DISCUSSION:

#### **I. GOD’S RICHES ARE UNSEARCHABLE**

- A. The gospel contains wealth unimaginable! Rom 1:16; Eph 3:8
- B. Reason treasure of salvation is beyond understanding
  - 1. It comes to man through a great paradox. Christ experienced poverty to provide us such wealth.
  - 2. Man must be willing to be worldly poor in order to be spiritually rich 2Cor 8:9; Matt 19:21; Heb 11:26
- C. Another reason these riches are so unsearchable
  - 1. They don’t occupy the world in which we live.
  - 2. Earth must be transcended to find them Matt 6:20; 13:44

#### **II. GOD’S JOY IS INEXPRESSIBLE**

- A. Unutterable delight is the result of faith! 1Pet 1:6-8
- B. This joy exists despite suffering, pain, and sorrow. It is deep and internal, not shallow and temporary 2Cor 6:10; 1Pet 4:13; Acts 16:25; Psa 126:5
- C. Salvation is a great cause for joy. Isa 61:10; Rom 5:11

#### **III. GOD’S PEACE IS PAST UNDERSTANDING**

- A. Unfathomable calm arrives when we choose to stop worrying and bring our concerns to God in prayer Phil 4:6-7
- B. Peace of Christ nothing like the peace of earth. Earthly peace the absence of conflict. Christ’s is an overriding calm despite conflict Jhn 14:27
- C. Ironically, our peace comes from Jesus’ punishment Isa 53:5; Col 1:19-20

#### **IV. GOD’S LOVE IS PAST KNOWING**

- A. The love of Jesus is incomprehensible (# 350 “I Know Whom I Have Believed”) “I know not why God’s wondrous grace; To me He hath made known, Nor why, unworthy, Christ in love Redeemed me for His own. But ‘I know Whom I have believed, And am persuaded that He is able, To keep that which I’ve committed, Unto Him against that day.” Eph 3:17-19

- B. God’s love triumphs over all obstacles and surpasses all obstacles Rom 8:35-39
- C. Our Lord proved perfect love by sacrificing Himself. We should learn from that Jhn 15:13; 1Jhn 3:16

#### **V. WAYS OF GOD PAST FINDING OUT**

- A. Although God reveals all that we must know to please Him, He keeps His own counsel private. His thought process is really incomprehensible to mortal man Rom 11:33-36
- B. We rightly sing: “I stand in awe of You” (# 1 Supplement) “You are beautiful beyond description, Too marvelous for words, Too wonderful for comprehension, Like nothing ever seen or heard, Who can grasp Your infinite wisdom, Who can fathom the depths of Your love, You are beautiful beyond description, Majesty, enthroned above, And I stand, I stand in awe of You, I stand, I stand in awe of You Holy God to whom all praise is due, I stand in awe of You” Job 5:8-9; 11:7-9; Eccl 3:11; 8:16-17; Isa 40:28

### CONCLUSION:

- A. However, God does allow those who are faithful to Him certain insights into His mind
- B. Yet these elude those who distance themselves from Him 1Cor 2:11-16; Jhn 15:15; 1Jhn 4:12
- C. In order for God’s power (the gospel Rom 1:16) to work in us, we must submit ourselves completely to His will Phil 2:13; Heb 13:20-21

(From a sermon by: Bryan Matthew Dockens revised by JLH)