

## Prevailing in Prayer V

Vision can be sustained by prayer - *Daniel 10*

Vision can be sharpened by prayer - *Matthew 6*

Vision can be strengthened by prayer - *Acts 1-2*

Vision can be supported by prayer - *Ephesians 1:15-23*

Consider *Ephesians 1:18*

*NLT Ephesians 1:18* I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance.

*Amp Ephesians 1:18* And [**I pray**] that the eyes of your heart [the very center and core of your being] may be enlightened [**flooded with light by the Holy Spirit**], so that you will know and cherish the hope [**the divine guarantee, the confident expectation**] to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints (**God's people**),

Paul's prayer continues with a threefold petition.

**I**

We are to receive enlightenment.

Light is seen as knowledge.

Darkness is seen as ignorance.

Light gives guidance through the darkness.

We are to be enlightened, in our core being, in our spirit.

*ESV 2 Corinthians 4:6* For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

- We are to give light to a dark world.

## II

We are to maintain confident expectation.

*NLT Jeremiah 29:11* For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. <sup>12</sup> In those days when you pray, I will listen. <sup>13</sup> If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me.

This confident hope is anchored in two places.

If we pray, He will listen. *Vs 12*

If we seek Him wholeheartedly, we will find Him. *Vs 13*

*NLT 1 John 5:14* And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. <sup>15</sup> And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.

The confidence He has given us is to become who we were born to be.

*NLT Philippians 1:6* And I am certain that God, **who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished** on the day when Christ Jesus returns

- He has a plan for our life from the womb to the tomb.

## III

We are to operate in the empowerment found in the saints, His corporate body.

We have treasure in these earthly vessels. *NLT 2 Corinthians 4:7*

*NLT 2 Corinthians 4:7* We now have this light shining in our hearts, **but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure**. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves.

We need to discover the treasure in these vessels. *ESV Matthew 13:44*

*ESV Matthew 13:44* The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

There is an inheritance in God's people.

Your legacy is who you leave.

Your inheritance is what you leave.

- *He left us His Spirit.*
- *He left us "one another".*