

Christ's Dwelling in Believers

Ephesians 3:17a (LEB)

that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith

- Paul prays for what is already true for genuine believers (2 Cor. 13:5)
- We need to appreciate and live out the significance of being indwelt by Christ
- It is through faith alone that we are in Christ and filled with the Spirit

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Rooted and Grounded in Love

Ephesians 3:17b (LEB)

(you having been firmly rooted and established in love),

- Paul uses agricultural and building metaphors for God's love and the believer
- Though the Greek is ambiguous, God's love for us and our love for God are true
- Those who are firmly rooted and established (having a foundation) will be stable in their Christian lives

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The Profundity of Our Status

Ephesians 3:18 (LEB)

in order that you may be strong enough to **grasp together with all the saints** what is the breadth, and length, and height, and depth,

- "Grasp" means "to seize"
- "All the saints" are all who know Christ
- The Greek does not indicate what these dimensions modify (love or power?)
- What is true must weigh heavily upon us

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The Incomprehensible Love of Christ

Ephesians 3:19a (LEB)

and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,

- Paul uses an oxymoron: "know what cannot be known"
- The cross (1 John 3:16a) reveals Christ's love
- We cannot be separated from Christ's love (Romans 8:38-39)
- The ultimate reality is even greater

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The Fullness of God

Ephesians 3:19b (LEB)

in order that you may be **filled up to all the fullness of God**

- This fullness dwells in Christ (Col. 1:19; 2:9)
- The church is the building of God and the dwelling place of God
- In the OT God filled the tent of meeting and Solomon's temple (Exodus 40:34-35; 1 Kings 8:10-11)

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Implications and Applications

- By faith, be encouraged in your status in Christ because it is profound
- Knowing God's love will keep us from despair in this life

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Encouraged With Full Assurance

Colossians 2:2 (LEB)

so **that their hearts may be encouraged**, united in love and into all the wealth of the full assurance of insight into the knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ,

- Mystery religions created fear and uncertainty; God gives assurance in Christ
- As we believe God's revealed truth, we find encouragement and comfort

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Hope in God's Love

Romans 5:5 (NASB)

And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

- This is about God's love for us
- It is important to comprehend the meaning and significance of His love for us
- The Holy Spirit is God's gift and He indwells all believers, imparting God's love

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