
Sermon Text Discussion Notes 9/8/2019

“What We Most Deeply Need” Ephesians 1:15-23 by Drew Hunter

Overview

The closing verses of Ephesians 1 give us a glimpse into the things Paul is praying for the believers in Ephesus - things we should cling to as true about ourselves and things we should pray for other believers. Paul prays that we would:

- 1) Know who God is
- 2) Know what he plans for us
- 3) Know what he thinks of us
- 4) Know the power he has towards us

Quotations

“I am a complete idiot. My future is incredibly bright. Anyone can get in on this.” -The “mantra” at Immanuel Church

“Snobbery will die on the day when none of us needs reassurance of his or her own worth...when kindness and generosity, courage and honor are all rightly revered. But until that precise day arrives – please, don’t mark your calendar just yet – snobbery appears here to stay.” -Epstein, *Snobbery*

Understanding & Application

- 1) While praying for things related to health, relationships, and safety are all good things for which to pray, what does Paul highlight in this text that we most deeply need?
- 2) What is the difference between knowing *about* God and *knowing* God? Use examples.
- 3) How do the truths laid out in v.18-19 work to suffocate snobbery? See also the quote from Epstein above.
- 4) If you or someone you know feels weak, hopeless, or worthless, how could you encourage them from God’s Word? While this text assumes the reader is a believer, how would your response change if the person was not a believer?
- 5) What two things does Paul point to in verse 20 that should give Christians hope regardless of our circumstances?
- 6) Who are you praying for, that the Lord would enlighten the eyes of his or her heart?