

CALL to PRAYER – Pray for eyes of faith to see things as they really are. Matt. 6:22-23

## **Ephesian 3:8-13 - Unfathomable Riches & Eternal Purpose**

Intro- There are two major quests that seem to consume many people's lives – *money & meaning*. To: 1] *accumulate some wealth in life* and 2] *to know why you are here in this life* are big goals in life. To have some *possessions* and know your *purpose* are two big ticket items that if you can check those boxes...it would seem you have achieved and arrived at something special in this life. Yet, money & meaning seem to be quite illusive in the quest...the purpose & possessions we crave wind up being a mirage that can never be fully grasped. Even if we find them in life there remains an emptiness to life – much like chasing after the wind...even if you catch it what do you truly have? Our text today mentions *Unfathomable Riches* and an *Eternal Purpose*. There is a *Treasure* that is boundless and endless and there is a *Reason* for existence that extends beyond the limits of our lifespans. This purpose and those possessions are found in a Person - Jesus. The Son of God is the sum of the “*wealth of life*” and He is the reason for the “*why of life*.” If you have HIM then you have life, but if you don't have HIM then you do not have a life that is truly life. <sup>1 John 5:11-12</sup> Today I pray we get a glimpse of Unsearchable Riches and of an Eternal Purpose.

### **UNFATHOMABLE RICHES**

1. Unfathomable riches are only possessed by unworthy people.
  - a. Eph. 3:8
  - b. Paul was the greatest of the Apostles but considered himself to be the least of all the saints. Paul never forgot his sinful origins and own unworthiness.
    - i. 1 Tim. 1:15
    - ii. 1 Cor. 15:8-9
  - c. Grace is what makes unworthy people rich.
    - i. 1 Cor. 15:10 Eph. 3:8
2. A proper self-assessment is needed to have a proper Christ-assessment
  - a. If we think too highly of ourselves, we will automatically think too lowly of Christ.

Admiring ourselves we will miss Christ.

    - i. “Pastor” who proclaims that “God worships us.” (satanic blasphemy)
  - b. John 3:30
3. Christ is The Hidden Treasure and the Pearl of Great Price
  - a. Two parables about the Kingdom in Matthew 13:44-46
  - b. There is a *Treasure* that is hidden from men's eyes, but that treasure is so valuable that it is worth selling all you have in order to possess it.
  - c. There is a *Pearl of Great Price* that is worth losing everything in order to get it
  - d. Jesus Christ is that Treasure and He is that Pearl - Eph. 3:8 Col. 2:2-3 (wealth/treasure)
4. Ephesians is a written record of the riches we have in Christ.
  - a. Chapter 1- “*every spiritual blessing*” - 1:3
  - b. Chapter 2 - “*the riches of the His grace*” - 2:7
  - c. Chapter 3 - “*unfathomable riches*” - 3:8 and....Immeasurable love - 3:18-19

- d. Ephesians gives us a peek at the priceless. Church = trust fund kids – Rom. 8:16-17 Matt. 5:5
  - i. Ephesians is an accountant's ledger page listing the believer's assets.
- e. James 2:5 Rev. 2:9 Matt. 5:3
- 5. Don't be fooled by fools-gold.
  - a. Smaug obsessed and swimming in gold. Thorin who had dragon sickness.
  - b. Matt. 6:19-24
    - i. There is a transitory treasure and there is an eternal treasure. Infinite/finite
  - c. The eye of faith can see in Christ that which is: unsearchable & unfathomable. Never diminish...never extinguish...can't calculate or quantify...inexhaustible and infinite wealth...a priceless possession found only in a PERSON...

### **ETERNAL PURPOSE**

- This PERSON is the reason for life and the purpose of life
  - The purpose of life is found in the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - Eph. 3:11 Eternal Purpose bound up in the Eternal Person
- All of life revolves around the SON
  - Acts 17:28 (Rom. 11:36)
  - 1 Cor. 8:6 - we exist for Him and we exist through Him
  - Col. 1:15-19
  - John 1:4
    - Life is only found in the Person who made life
    - 1 John 5:11-12
    - Jesus is LIFE John 14:6
- The PURPOSE of life is found in the PERSON of life
  - God's plan for creation centers in the Person of His Son -
    - Eph. 3:11
  - If the purpose for our existence is found in the Person who created our existence then wouldn't it be good to have a relationship with that PERSON?
  - WSC Q1 - "*What is the chief end of man?*" (what is the purpose of life?)
    - A - "*The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever*"
- Faith is the way to find our purpose
  - Eph. 3:11-12
  - Faith gives us access to *THE PERSON*...eternal purpose and Pearl of great price.
  - People who know they have great possessions and a purpose to life have a boldness and confidence about them.
    - Believers can have all of this by faith
  - This boldness, confidence, purpose & possessions even apply when in great affliction
    - Eph. 3:13
    - Even tribulation can be assessed as a "glory" with boldness.
    - Eyes of faith can see the purpose and rest in the riches of *THE PERSON*
- Do you have Unfathomable Riches & an Eternal Purpose?
  - You can in Christ!