

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Spring Term of 2025**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE CRUCIAL POINTS OF THE TRUTH IN PAUL'S EPISTLES—
EPHESIANS**

Message Six

**Enjoying the Unsearchable Riches of Christ by Prayer
and Announcing the Unsearchable Riches of Christ by the Ministry of the Word**

Scripture Reading: Eph. 3:2, 8-9; Acts 6:4; Luke 11:5-13; Isa. 22:15, 19-24; Rev. 3:7

Eph. 3:2—If indeed you have heard of the stewardship of the grace of God which was given to me for you,

Eph. 3:8-9—To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel ⁹And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,

Acts 6:4—But we will continue steadfastly in prayer and in the ministry of the word.

Luke 11:5-13—And He said to them, Who among you will have a friend and will go to him at midnight and say to him, Friend, lend me three loaves, ⁶Since a friend of mine has come to me from a journey and I have nothing to set before him; ⁷And that one, from inside, will answer and say, Do not trouble me; the door is already shut and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise up and give you *anything*? ⁸I say to you, Even though he will not rise up and give him *anything* because he is his friend, surely because of his shameless persistence he will rise and give him what he needs. ⁹And I say to you, Ask and it shall be given to you; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it shall be opened. ¹¹But what father among you *whose* son shall ask for a fish will instead of a fish hand him a snake? ¹²Or *if* he shall also ask for an egg will hand him a scorpion? ¹³If you then being evil know *how* to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father who is from heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!

Isa. 22:15—Thus says the Lord Jehovah of hosts: Get up, go to this steward, To Shebna, who is over the *king's* house, *and say,*

Isa. 22:19-24—And I will drive you from your position, And from your standing He will pull you down. ²⁰And in that day I will call to My servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, ²¹And I will clothe him with your tunic, And I will strengthen him with your girding sash, And I will put your dominion into his hand; And he will become a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem And to the house of Judah. ²²And I will set the key of the house of David upon his shoulder—When he opens, no one will shut; When he shuts, no one will open. ²³And I will drive him as a peg into a sure place, And he will become a throne of glory for his father's house. ²⁴And they will hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all the smallest vessels, from the bowls to all the jars.

Rev. 3:7—And to the messenger of the church in Philadelphia write: These things says the Holy One, the true One, the One who has the key of David, the One who opens and no one will shut, and shuts and no one opens:

- I. **“To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel” (Eph. 3:8); we need to experience, enjoy, and express the unsearchable riches of Christ for the building up of the Body of Christ as the fullness of Christ becoming the fullness of God (1:22b-23; 3:9, 14-21).**

Eph. 1:22-23—And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him [to be] Head over all things to the church, ²³Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

Eph. 3:9—And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,

Eph. 3:14-21—For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, ¹⁵Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named, ¹⁶That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man, ¹⁷That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are ¹⁹And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God. ²⁰But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us, ²¹To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

- II. **When we believed and were baptized into Christ, we were grafted into Christ; thus, we believers are “in Christ”; this is an all-inclusive “IN”; “Everything is in Christ, / And Christ is everything”—Hymns, #513:**

- A. God put us into Christ (1 Cor. 1:30), and when we are in Christ, we receive the life of Christ, we become a part of Christ, and everything that is in Christ becomes ours; God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing that is “in Christ” (Eph. 1:3), and He has graced us “in Christ,” that is, “in the Beloved” (v. 6).

1 Cor. 1:30—But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom to us from God: both righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

Eph. 1:3—Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ,

Eph. 1:6—To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved;

- B. In order for us as the wild olive tree to be grafted into Christ as the cultivated olive tree, we needed to die and He also needed to die—Rom. 11:17, 24:

Rom. 11:17—But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them and became a fellow partaker of the root of fatness of the olive tree,

Rom. 11:24—For if you were cut off from what is by nature a wild olive tree and were grafted contrary to nature into the cultivated olive tree, how much more will these who are the natural *branches* be grafted into their own olive tree!

1. Christ became flesh to be the seed of David and the branch of David so that we might be grafted together with Him; He became the same as we are so that He and we could be grafted together—John 1:14; Matt. 1:1; Zech. 3:8; Jer. 23:5; 33:15.

John 1:14—And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

Matt. 1:1—The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

Zech. 3:8—Hear then, Joshua the high priest, you and your fellows who sit before you—for they are men of symbol—for I am about to bring forth My servant, the shoot.

Jer. 23:5—Indeed, days are coming, Declares Jehovah, When I will raise up to David a righteous Shoot; And He will reign as King and act prudently And will execute justice and righteousness in the land.

Jer. 33:15—In those days and at that time I will cause a Shoot of righteousness to shoot forth unto David, and He will execute justice and righteousness in the land.

2. Christ was “cut” when He died on the cross so that we could be grafted into Him and joined to Him; since we were crucified with Christ (Gal. 2:20), we also were “cut” on the cross because “our old man has been crucified with Him” (Rom. 6:6).

Gal. 2:20—I am crucified with Christ; and *it is* no longer I *who* live, but *it is* Christ *who* lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the *faith* of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Rom. 6:6—Knowing this, that our old man has been crucified with *Him* in order that the body of sin might be annulled, that we should no longer serve sin as slaves;

3. Furthermore, in speaking of the day of His resurrection, the Lord said, “In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you” (John 14:20); on the day of Christ’s resurrection, we were joined to Him, and this was the completion of His grafting work.
4. Once we repent and receive the Lord, He as the life-giving Spirit enters into our spirit, bringing the divine life into us, and we are grafted together with the crucified and resurrected Christ to be the branches of Christ as the tree of life (Rev. 2:7; John 15:1, 4-5); now in our organic union with Christ, whatever Christ has passed through has become our history (20:22; 1 Cor. 15:45b; Phil. 1:19; 1 Cor. 6:17).

Rev. 2:7—He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.

John 15:1—I am the true vine, and My Father is the husbandman.

John 15:4-5—Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither *can* you unless you abide in Me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

John 20:22—And when He had said this, He breathed into *them* and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.

1 Cor. 15:45—So also it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living soul”; the last Adam *became* a life-giving Spirit.

Phil. 1:19—For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and *the* bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

1 Cor. 6:17—But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.

5. “You have been made full in Him” (Col. 2:10); because all the fullness dwells in Christ (v. 9), after we have been put into Christ, we are made full, filled up, with all the divine riches for His expression (1:19).

Col. 2:10—And you have been made full in Him, who is the Head of all rule and authority.

Col. 2:9—For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily,

Col. 1:19—For in Him all the fullness was pleased to dwell

- C. By our abiding in Christ, in our spirit, we can dwell “in the secret place of the Most High” with Christ being our refuge and protection from all the attacks of Satan (Psa. 91:1-2); concerning Satan, the ruler of this world, the Lord said, “In Me he has nothing”; this means that in Christ, Satan has no ground, no chance, no hope, and no possibility in anything (John 14:30).

Psa. 91:1-2—He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. ²I say of Jehovah, My refuge and My fortress, My God in whom I trust!

John 14:30—I will no longer speak much with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and in Me he has nothing;

III. Christ as the Spirit is the Steward in God’s house, the divine household (Isa. 22:15, 19-24; Eph. 2:19, 22; 1 Tim. 1:3-4; 3:15; Eph. 3:9), who dispenses the unsearchable riches of His wealth into us for our beautification; then all the wealth returns to Him with us for His glorification and beautification (vv. 8, 16-21; 5:25-27; Gen. 24:2, 47, 53, 61-67; Isa. 60:7b, 9b, 19b, 21b):

Isa. 22:15—Thus says the Lord Jehovah of hosts: Get up, go to this steward, To Shebna, who is over the *king’s* house, *and say,*

Isa. 22:19-24—And I will drive you from your position, And from your standing He will pull you down. ²⁰And in that day I will call to My servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah, ²¹And I will clothe him with your tunic, And I will strengthen him with your girding sash, And I will put your dominion into his hand; And he will become a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem And to the house of Judah. ²²And I will set the key of the house of David upon his shoulder—When he opens, no one will shut; When he shuts, no one will open. ²³And I will drive him as a peg into a sure place, And he will become a throne of glory for his father’s house. ²⁴And they will hang upon him all the glory of his father’s house, the offspring and the issue, all the smallest vessels, from the bowls to all the jars.

Eph. 2:19—So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

Eph. 2:22—In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

1 Tim. 1:3-4—Even as I exhorted you, when I was going into Macedonia, to remain in Ephesus in order that you might charge certain ones not to teach different things ⁴Nor to give heed to myths and unending genealogies, which produce questionings rather than God's economy, which is in faith.

1 Tim. 3:15—But if I delay, *I write* that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

Eph. 3:9—And to enlighten all *that they may see* what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,

Eph. 3:8—To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel

Eph. 3:16-21—That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man, ¹⁷That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are ¹⁹And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God. ²⁰But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us, ²¹To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

Eph. 5:25-27—Husbands, love your wives even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her ²⁶That He might sanctify her, cleansing *her* by the washing of the water in the word, ²⁷That He might present the church to Himself glorious, not having spot or wrinkle or any such things, but that she would be holy and without blemish.

Gen. 24:2—And Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his house, who ruled over all that he had, Put your hand under my thigh;

Gen. 24:47—And I asked her and said, Whose daughter are you? And she said, The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him. And I put the nose-ring upon her nose and the bracelets upon her hands.

Gen. 24:53—And the servant brought forth silver jewelry and gold jewelry and clothing and gave them to Rebekah. He also gave precious things to her brother and to her mother.

Gen. 24:61-67—And Rebekah arose with her maids, and they rode on the camels and followed the man. And the servant took Rebekah and went away. ⁶²Now Isaac had come from going to Beer-lahai-roi, for he was dwelling in the region of the Negev. ⁶³And Isaac went out to meditate in the field toward evening. And he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, camels were coming. ⁶⁴And Rebekah lifted up her eyes; and when she saw Isaac, she sprang off the camel. ⁶⁵And she said to the servant, Who is this man who is walking in the field to meet us? And the servant said, It is my master. And she took her veil and covered herself. ⁶⁶And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. ⁶⁷And Isaac brought her into the tent of Sarah his mother. And he took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her. And Isaac was comforted after *the death of* his mother.

Isa. 60:7—All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered together to you; The rams of Nebaioth will minister to you; They will go up acceptably upon My altar, And I will beautify the house of My beauty.

Isa. 60:9—Surely the coastlands will look eagerly for Me; And the ships of Tarshish will come first, To bring your children from afar, Their silver and their gold with them, Unto the name of Jehovah your God And unto the Holy One of Israel; for He has beautified you.

Isa. 60:19—You will no longer have the sun for *your* light by day, Nor for brightness will the moon give you light; But Jehovah will be an eternal light to you, And your God your beauty.

Isa. 60:21—Then all your people will be righteous; They will possess the land forever, The branch of My planting, The work of My hands, That I may be beautified.

A. Christ as the Steward in God's house is the life-dispensing Spirit as the law of the Spirit of life, dispensing the riches of Himself as life into our spirit, soul, and body so that we may be swallowed up by life to be men of life for the building up of the Body of Christ—Rom. 8:2, 10, 6, 11; 2 Cor. 3:6; 5:4.

Rom. 8:2—For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.

Rom. 8:10—But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness.

Rom. 8:6—For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.

Rom. 8:11—And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.

2 Cor. 3:6—Who has also made us sufficient as ministers of a new covenant, *ministers* not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

2 Cor. 5:4—For also, we who are in this tabernacle groan, being burdened, in that we do not desire to be unclothed, but clothed upon, that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

B. Christ as the Spirit is the Steward in God's house, dispensing Himself as multiplied grace into His chosen and redeemed people, who take Him as their humility to be their moment-by-moment supply and constant enjoyment—John 1:16-17; James 4:5-6; 2 Cor. 12:9; 1 Pet. 1:2; 5:5; 4:10; Eph. 3:2.

John 1:16-17—For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and reality came through Jesus Christ.

James 4:5-6—Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain: The Spirit, whom He has caused to dwell in us, longs unto envy? ⁶But He gives greater grace; therefore it says, "God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble."

2 Cor. 12:9—And He has said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness. Most gladly therefore I will rather boast in my weaknesses that the power of Christ might tabernacle over me.

1 Pet. 1:2—Chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father in the sanctification of the Spirit unto the obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

1 Pet. 5:5—In like manner, younger men, be subject to elders; and all of you gird yourselves with humility toward one another, because God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.

1 Pet. 4:10—Each one, as he has received a gift, ministering it among yourselves as good stewards of the varied grace of God.

Eph. 3:2—If indeed you have heard of the stewardship of the grace of God which was given to me for you,

- C. Christ is the One upon whose shoulder the key of (the treasury of) the house of God (typified by the house of David for the building up of the kingdom of God) is set—Isa. 22:22; Rev. 3:7:

Isa. 22:22—And I will set the key of the house of David upon his shoulder—When he opens, no one will shut; When he shuts, no one will open.

Rev. 3:7—And to the messenger of the church in Philadelphia write: These things says the Holy One, the true One, the One who has the key of David, the One who opens and no one will shut, and shuts and no one opens:

1. To the recovered church, Christ is the One who has the key of David, the key of the kingdom, with authority to open and to shut; the Lord has given the recovered church an opened door which no one can shut—v. 8.

Rev. 3:8—I know your works; behold, I have put before you an opened door which no one can shut, because you have a little power and have kept My word and have not denied My name.

2. The key of David opens the door for us to be transformed into a white stone and built into the house of God as a pillar with the name of God, the name of the New Jerusalem, and the new name of the Lord—2:17; 3:12; cf. 21:22:

Rev. 2:17—He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give of the hidden manna, and to him I will give a white stone, and upon the stone a new name written, which no one knows except him who receives *it*.

Rev. 3:12—He who overcomes, him I will make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall by no means go out anymore, and I will write upon him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which descends out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

cf. Rev. 21:22—And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

- a. For us to be built into God, become a constituent of the New Jerusalem, and become a part of the new Christ is humanly impossible, but the law of the Spirit of life within us contains an element that deals with impossibility—Rom. 8:2; Luke 18:27; cf. Gen. 28:12-19; John 1:51.

Rom. 8:2—For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.

Luke 18:27—But He said, The things that are impossible with men are possible with God.

cf. Gen. 28:12-19—And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³And there was Jehovah, standing above it; and He said, I am Jehovah, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie, I will give to you and to your seed. ¹⁴And your seed will be as the dust of the earth, and you will spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and in your seed will all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵And, behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will cause you to return to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you. ¹⁶And Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, Surely Jehovah is in this place, and I did not know it. ¹⁷And he was afraid and said, How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven. ¹⁸And Jacob rose up early in the morning and took the stone that he had put under his head, and he set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. ¹⁹And he called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz previously.

cf. John 1:51—And He said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, You shall see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.

- b. Christ has the key to control the door of God's treasury, in which are the riches of God in Christ for our enjoyment; in order to enjoy His riches as the treasure, we need to remain in the touch with the Lord, staying in contact with the Lord according to the sense of life—2 Cor. 2:10; Rom. 8:6; Matt. 5:3, 8.

2 Cor. 2:10—But whom you forgive anything, I also *forgive*; for also what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, *it is* for your sake in the person of Christ;

Rom. 8:6—For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.

Matt. 5:3—Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.

Matt. 5:8—Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

- c. In order to enjoy His riches as the treasure, we need to learn to exercise the keys of denying the self, taking up the cross, and losing the soul-life; all of us are "Shebnas," who should be removed and replaced by Christ for Him to be everything to us and do everything in us, through us, and for us—Isa. 22:15-19; Matt. 16:24-25.

Isa. 22:15-19—Thus says the Lord Jehovah of hosts: Get up, go to this steward, To Shebna, who is over the *king's* house, *and say*, ¹⁶What are you doing here, and whom do you have here That you have hewn a tomb for yourself here, As he who

has hewn a tomb on the heights, As he who has cut out a resting place for himself in the rock? ¹⁷Jehovah soon throws you far away, O mighty one, And He grasps you firmly; ¹⁸He will wind you up tightly; Like a ball *He will toss* you into a wide land. There you will die; and there the chariots of your glory *Will become* the disgrace of the house of your master. ¹⁹And I will drive you from your position, And from your standing He will pull you down.

Matt. 16:24-25—Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. ²⁵For whoever wants to save his soul-life shall lose it; but whoever loses his soul-life for My sake shall find it.

IV. We can enjoy the unsearchably rich Christ as the Spirit by continuing steadfastly in prayer and in the ministry of the word—Acts 6:4:

Acts 6:4—But we will continue steadfastly in prayer and in the ministry of the word.

- A. To pray is to realize that we are nothing and can do nothing; prayer is the real denial and repudiating of our self for the enjoyment of Christ as our jubilee—Col. 4:2; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 3:3; 4:6-7, 11-13.

Col. 4:2—Persevere in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving,

Gal. 2:20—I am crucified with Christ; and *it is* no longer I *who* live, but *it is* Christ *who* lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the *faith* of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Phil. 3:3—For we are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh,

Phil. 4:6-7—In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses every *man's* understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

Phil. 4:11-13—Not that I speak according to lack, for I have learned, in whatever circumstances I am, to be content. ¹²I know also how to be abased, and I know how to abound; in everything and in all things I have learned the secret both to be filled and to hunger, both to abound and to lack. ¹³I am able to do all things in Him who empowers me.

- B. Often in our experience we are distracted from Christ, our God; we do not abide in Christ, stay in Christ, remain in Christ; this is why we need to pray ourselves into God; because we are easily distracted from God, we should spend time every morning with Him, praying ourselves into Him—John 15:5; Psa. 90:1; 91:1; 5:3; Isa. 50:4.

John 15:5—I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

Psa. 90:1—O Lord, You have been our dwelling place In all generations.

Psa. 91:1—He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

Psa. 5:3—O Jehovah, in the morning You will hear my voice; In the morning I will set forth *my words* in order to You, And I will watch.

Isa. 50:4—The Lord Jehovah has given me The tongue of the instructed, That I should know how to sustain the weary with a word. He awakens *me* morning by morning; He awakens my ear To hear as an instructed one.

- C. When we pray ourselves into God, we receive His riches (signified by the loaves, the fish, and the egg) into our being for our supply—Luke 11:5-13:

Luke 11:5-13—And He said to them, Who among you will have a friend and will go to him at midnight and say to him, Friend, lend me three loaves, ⁶Since a friend of mine has come to me from a journey and I have nothing to set before him; ⁷And that one, from inside, will answer and say, Do not trouble me; the door is already shut and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise up and give you *anything*? ⁸I say to you, Even though he will not rise up and give him *anything* because he is his friend, surely because of his shameless persistence he will rise and give him what he needs. ⁹And I say to you, Ask and it shall be given to you; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it shall be opened. ¹¹But what father among you *whose* son shall ask for a fish will instead of a fish hand him a snake? ¹²Or *if* he shall also ask for an egg will hand him a scorpion? ¹³If you then being evil know *how* to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father who is from heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!

1. Loaves represent the riches of the land; fish, the riches of the sea; and eggs, the riches of something both in the air and on the earth; the Holy Spirit is the totality of these riches.
2. When we have prayed ourselves into God to remain in Him, we receive the Holy Spirit as our life supply (signified by the loaves, the fish, and the egg) so that we can feed ourselves and all those under our care—Ezek. 3:1-4; Phil. 1:25; Eph. 3:2.

Ezek. 3:1-4—Then He said to me, Son of man, eat what you find; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel. ²So I opened my mouth, and He gave me that scroll to eat. ³And He said to me, Son of man, feed your stomach and fill your inward parts with this scroll that I am giving you. And I ate *it*, and it was like honey in my mouth in *its* sweetness. ⁴Then He said to me, Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them.

Phil. 1:25—And being confident of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of the faith,

Eph. 3:2—If indeed you have heard of the stewardship of the grace of God which was given to me for you,

3. In our prayer we simply need to learn to “ask Him” for what we need so that we can meet His need:
 - a. “If you then being evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father who is from heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”—Luke 11:13.

- b. “If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water”—John 4:10; Rom. 6:23.

John 4:10—Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.

Rom. 6:23—For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- c. “One thing I have asked from Jehovah; / That do I seek: / To dwell in the house of Jehovah / All the days of my life, / To behold the beauty of Jehovah, / And to inquire in His temple”—Psa. 27:4.

V. We can enjoy the Lord’s unsearchable riches by calling on His name, by receiving His word in a spirit and atmosphere of prayer, by musing on His word, and by singing His word—Rom. 10:12-13; Psa. 27:8; Rev. 22:20; Eph. 6:17-18; Psa. 116:12-13; 119:11, 14-16, 23-24, 72, 97, 99, 111; Col. 3:16; Psa. 119:54.

Rom. 10:12-13—For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord *is Lord* of all *and* rich to all who call upon Him; ¹³For “whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Psa. 27:8—*When You say, Seek My face, To You my heart says, Your face, O Jehovah, will I seek.*

Rev. 22:20—He who testifies these things says, Yes, I come quickly. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Eph. 6:17-18—And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which *Spirit* is the word of God, ¹⁸By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

Psa. 116:12-13—What shall I return to Jehovah For all His benefits toward me? ¹³I will take up the cup of salvation And call upon the name of Jehovah.

Psa. 119:11—In my heart I have treasured up Your word That I might not sin against You.

Psa. 119:14-16—I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies As much as in all riches. ¹⁵I will muse upon Your precepts And regard Your ways. ¹⁶I will take delight in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word.

Psa. 119:23-24—Princes as well have sat and spoken against me, *But* Your servant mused upon Your statutes. ²⁴Also Your testimonies are my delight; *They are* my counselors.

Psa. 119:72—The law of Your mouth is better to me Than thousands of *pieces of* gold and silver.

Psa. 119:97—Oh, how I love Your law! All day long it is my musing.

Psa. 119:99—I have more insight than all my teachers, For Your testimonies are my musing.

Psa. 119:111—Your testimonies are my heritage forever, For they are the gladness of my heart.

Col. 3:16—Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.

Psa. 119:54—Your statutes have become my songs of praise In the house of my pilgrimage.

VI. We can enjoy the Lord's unsearchable riches by telling our soul to bless the Lord (to speak well of Him and to praise Him with adoration) for all His benefits toward us (103:1-19) and by charging His angels, His hosts, and His works to bless the Lord (vv. 20-22).

Psa. 103:1-19—Bless Jehovah, O my soul; And all that is within me, *ble*ss His holy name. ²Bless Jehovah, O my soul; And do not forget all His benefits: ³He pardons all your iniquities; He heals all your diseases; ⁴He redeems your life from the pit; He crowns you with lovingkindness and compassions; ⁵He satisfies the prime of your life with good, *So that* your youth is renewed like the eagle. ⁶Jehovah executes righteous acts, And judgments for all who are oppressed. ⁷He made His ways known to Moses; His acts, to the children of Israel. ⁸Jehovah is compassionate and gracious, Long-suffering and abundant in lovingkindness. ⁹He will not always contend *with us*, Nor will He keep *His anger* forever. ¹⁰He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor has He recompensed us according to our iniquities. ¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth, So great is His lovingkindness upon those who fear Him. ¹²As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. ¹³As compassionate as a father is toward *his* children, So compassionate is Jehovah toward those who fear Him. ¹⁴For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust. ¹⁵Man—his days are like grass; He flourishes like a field flower: ¹⁶For the wind passes over it, and it is no more; And its own place knows of it no longer. ¹⁷But Jehovah's lovingkindness is from eternity Unto eternity upon those who fear Him, And His righteousness is to the children's children; ¹⁸To those who keep His covenant And remember His precepts so as to do them. ¹⁹Jehovah has established His throne in the heavens, And His kingdom rules over all.

Psa. 103:20-22—Bless Jehovah, you His angels, Who are mighty in strength to perform His word, By obeying the voice of His word. ²¹Bless Jehovah, all you His hosts, You His ministers who execute His will. ²²Bless Jehovah, all you His works, In all places of His dominion. Bless Jehovah, O my soul.

VII. We can enjoy the unsearchably rich Christ as the supply of the riches in the Body, for the Body, and through the Body by the ministry in the Body:

A. The supply of the Body is the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, typified by the compound ointment, the holy anointing oil—Phil. 1:19-21a; Exo. 30:23-25.

Phil. 1:19-21—For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and *the* bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, ²⁰According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I will be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, even now Christ will be magnified in my body, whether through life or through death. ²¹For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Exo. 30:23-25—You also take the finest spices: of flowing myrrh five hundred *shekels*, and of fragrant cinnamon half as much, two hundred fifty *shekels*, and of fragrant calamus two hundred fifty *shekels*, ²⁴And of cassia five hundred *shekels*, according to the

shekel of the sanctuary, and a hin of olive oil. ²⁵And you shall make it a holy anointing oil, a fragrant ointment compounded according to the work of a compounder; it shall be a holy anointing oil.

- B. The compound Spirit is in and for the Body and for the priestly service that builds up the Body—Psa. 133; Exo. 30:26-31; Rom. 15:16; 1 Pet. 2:5, 9.

Psa. 133:1-3—Behold, how good and how pleasant it is / For brothers to dwell in unity! ²It is like the fine oil upon the head / That ran down upon the beard, / Upon Aaron's beard, / That ran down upon the hem of his garments; ³Like the dew of Hermon / That came down upon the mountains of Zion. / For there Jehovah commanded the blessing: / Life forever.

Exo. 30:26-31—And with it you shall anoint the Tent of Meeting and the Ark of the Testimony, ²⁷And the table and all its utensils, and the lampstand and its utensils, and the altar of incense, ²⁸And the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the laver and its base. ²⁹Thus you shall sanctify them that they may be most holy; whatever touches them shall be holy. ³⁰And you shall anoint Aaron and his sons and sanctify them that they may serve Me as priests. ³¹And you shall speak to the children of Israel, saying, This shall be a holy anointing oil to Me throughout your generations.

Rom. 15:16—That I might be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, a laboring priest of the gospel of God, in order that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, having been sanctified in the Holy Spirit.

1 Pet. 2:5—You yourselves also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Pet. 2:9—But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people acquired for a possession, so that you may tell out the virtues of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

- C. According to Psalm 133, the inestimable goodness and pleasantness of brothers dwelling together in oneness is likened to the compound precious ointment; the practice of the oneness, which is the one accord, is the master key to every blessing in the New Testament—Eph. 4:1-6; 1 Cor. 1:10; Phil. 2:2.

Psa. 133:1-3—Behold, how good and how pleasant it is / For brothers to dwell in unity! ²It is like the fine oil upon the head / That ran down upon the beard, / Upon Aaron's beard, / That ran down upon the hem of his garments; ³Like the dew of Hermon / That came down upon the mountains of Zion. / For there Jehovah commanded the blessing: / Life forever.

Eph. 4:1-6—I beseech you therefore, I, the prisoner in the Lord, to walk worthily of the calling with which you were called, ²With all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, bearing one another in love, ³Being diligent to keep the oneness of the Spirit in the uniting bond of peace: ⁴One Body and one Spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵One Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

1 Cor. 1:10—Now I beseech you, brothers, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing and *that* there be no divisions among you, but *that* you be attuned in the same mind and in the same opinion.

Phil. 2:2—Make my joy full, that you think the same thing, having the same love, joined in soul, thinking the one thing,

- D. We receive the supply of the Spirit by the intercession and fellowship of the members—1:19; 1 Thes. 5:25; 3:8; 1 Cor. 10:16b; 1 John 1:3; Psa. 73:16-17; Matt. 5:14; Rev. 1:20; 1 Cor. 16:18; Eph. 4:16.

Phil. 1:19—For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and *the* bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

1 Thes. 5:25—Brothers, pray also for us.

1 Thes. 3:8—Because now we live if you stand firm in the Lord.

1 Cor. 10:16—The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the fellowship of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the fellowship of the body of Christ?

1 John 1:3—That which we have seen and heard we report also to you that you also may have fellowship with us, and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

Psa. 73:16-17—When I considered this in order to understand *it*, It was a troublesome task in my sight, ¹⁷Until I went into the sanctuary of God; *Then* I perceived their end.

Matt. 5:14—You are the light of the world. It is impossible for a city situated upon a mountain to be hidden.

Rev. 1:20—The mystery of the seven stars which you saw upon My right hand and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

1 Cor. 16:18—For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Acknowledge therefore such ones.

Eph. 4:16—Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and *through* the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.

VIII. We can enjoy the Lord's unsearchable riches day by day by enjoying the Triune God Himself with all the items of Christ's victory in His complete, full, and all-inclusive salvation—"Blessed be the Lord, who day by day loads us with good; / God is our salvation. Selah"—Psa. 68:19, 12-13.

Psa. 68:12-13—The kings of the armies flee. They flee! And she who abides at home Divides the spoil. ¹³Though you lie among the sheepfolds, There are dove wings covered with silver, And its pinions, with greenish-yellow gold.