



Ephesians 6:21-24

# A FINAL BLESSING

*Paul finishes with a blessing—and in it all the great words come again. The peace which was a man’s highest good, the faith which was complete resting in Christ, the grace which was the lovely free gift of God—these things Paul calls down from God upon his friends. Above all he prays for love that*

*they may know the love of God, that they may love men as God loves them, and that they may love Jesus Christ with an undying love.*

—William Barclay (1907-78)

## FINAL OBSERVATIONS FROM 6:10-20

1. We are in a great cosmic, spiritual battle (6:10-12).
2. We need to take up the whole armor of God, each day, if we are going to stand firm in the battle (6:13-17). The armor of God reflects the character of Christ. Thus, it is putting on the new man, knowing who you are in Christ.
3. We gain spiritual victories by wielding the Word of God, empowered by the Spirit of God, with prayer (6:18-20).
  - We are to pray at all times.
  - We are to pray with all kinds of prayer.
  - We are to pray in the Spirit.
  - We are to pray with our eyes open to spiritual reality.
  - We are to pray with all perseverance.
  - We are to pray for all the saints.
  - We are to pray for boldness to speak the gospel.

## FINAL WORDS FROM THE APOSTLE PAUL (6:21-24)

Paul closes his letter by commending Tychicus, who is the bearer of the letter and Paul’s personal representative (cf. Col. 4:7-9). Tychicus, whose name means “lucky,” is described as a “beloved brother and a faithful minister of the Lord.” He appears several times in the NT as an associate of Paul who was always ready to serve in whatever capacity that was needed (Acts 20:4; 2 Tim. 4:12; Titus 3:12).

Tychicus was sent not only to bear the letter of Ephesians (and Colossians) but also to give further information on Paul’s situation and to encourage their hearts in the Lord.

*A conflict, a warfare, a fight, a soldier’s life, a wrestling are spoken of as characteristic of the true Christian.* —J. C. Ryle

*Our divine Lord in the wilderness was tempted by the devil. He might have fought Satan with a thousand weapons, but he chose to defeat him with this one only. He said, “It is written; it is written; it is written.”*

—Charles H. Spurgeon

*To clasp hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world.*

—Karl Barth

*We are to pray “in the spirit” and “at all times.” Let your deep affections enter into your praying. The inner spirit, that is, the inner man, is making his prayer with intense desire. He is praying all the time, so that even when he is not praying aloud, he is still praying in the spirit.*

—Marius Victorinus (290-364)

*We should use every kind of prayer we can think of. Group prayer, individual prayer, silent prayer, shouting prayer, walking prayer, kneeling prayer, eloquent prayer, groaning prayer, constant prayer, fervent prayer. Just pray!* —David Guzik

Paul ends his letter by giving a blessing to all believers.

### MAY WE KNOW THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF GOD.

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. (2:14-17)

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (4:1-3)

### MAY WE KNOW, WITH FAITH, THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF GOD.

But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. (2:4-5)

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. (3:17b-19)

### MAY WE KNOW THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF GOD

In Christ, by God's amazing, abundant grace, I am...

- Blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies (1:3).
- Chosen before the foundation of the world (1:4).
- Adopted eternally into God's family (1:5).
- Redeemed by His blood and forgiven of all my sins (1:7).
- Given insight into God's eternal plan for the ages (1:9-10).
- Given an abundant inheritance in God's kingdom (1:11).
- Indwelt and sealed with the Holy Spirit (1:13-14).
- Joined to the sovereign resurrection power of Christ (1:19-23).
- Saved from sin, death, and condemnation (2:1-3).
- Made alive with Christ and seated with Him in glory (2:4-7).
- Re-created as God's work of art, with hope and purpose (2:10).
- United to others in the body of Christ (2:14-17).
- Invited into the eternal, holy fellowship of the Trinity (2:18-22).
- Designed to display God's wisdom to the angelic realm (3:10-11).
- Loved with an everlasting, incomprehensible love (3:17-19)!

*As we pour out our bitterness,  
God pours in his peace.*

—F. B. Meyer

*All fear is but the notion that  
God's love ends.* —Ann Voskamp

*The whole Christian life depends  
on the clear consciousness of our  
position in Christ.*

—Andrew Murray

*I am more sinful and flawed than  
I ever dared believe, more loved  
and welcomed than I ever dared  
hope.* —Elyse M. Fitzpatrick

*Religion says: "My identity is  
built on being a good person."  
The Gospel says: "My identity is  
not built on my record or my  
performance but on Christ's."*

—Timothy Keller

*Love is the greatest thing God  
can give us for He Himself is love.*

—Jeremy Taylor (1613-67)

*Everything is of grace in the  
Christian life from the very  
beginning to the very end.*

—D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

**Incarnate.** Greek, *aphtharsia*, "a state of not being subject to decay or death." This ending phrase in 6:24 can either mean that we are to love Christ with an "undying love" or that His grace, and our love in response to His grace, are all experienced in immortality, without end.

*We must be sure of the infinite  
good that is done to us by our  
Lord Jesus Christ, in order that  
we may be ravished in love with  
our God and inflamed with a  
right affection to obey Him.*

—John Calvin (1509-64)