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The Road To Transformation Cont.

Ephesians 1:15-19 - *Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God's people everywhere, ¹⁶ I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, ¹⁷ asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. ¹⁸ I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance. ¹⁹ I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him...*

The Giving Of God's Grace Always Carries With It A Responsibility

Ephesians 2:8-10 - *God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. ¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.*

While God's Grace Is Unmerited, God Expects A Hands-On Response

It's (calling) Apprehended Through Experience

Romans 3:22 - *We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.*

Colossians 1:29 - *That's why I work and struggle so hard, depending on Christ's mighty power that works within me.*

Ephesians 1:19-20 - *I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power ²⁰ that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms.*

Ephesians 3:20 - *Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.*

Ephesians 4:16 - *He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.*

Ephesians 3:3-12 - *As I briefly wrote earlier, God himself revealed his mysterious plan to me. ⁴ As you read what I have written, you will understand my insight into this plan regarding Christ. ⁵ God did not reveal it to previous generations, but now by his Spirit he has revealed it to his holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ And this is God's plan: Both Gentiles and Jews who believe the Good News share equally in the riches inherited by God's children. Both are part of the same body, and both enjoy the promise of blessings because they belong to Christ Jesus. ⁷ By God's grace and mighty power, I have been given the privilege of serving him by spreading this Good News. ⁸ Though I am the least deserving of all God's people, he graciously gave me the privilege of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ. ⁹ I was chosen to explain to everyone this mysterious plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning. ¹⁰ God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence.*

God's Purpose Today Is Lordship Over His Church

The Church (Us) Is God's Plan For The Reconciled Future Of The World

Ephesians 1:9-10 - *God has now revealed to us his mysterious will regarding Christ—which is to fulfill his own good plan. ¹⁰ And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth.*

Ephesians 3:8 - *Though I am the least deserving of all God's people, he graciously gave me the privilege of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ.*

1 Corinthians 15:9 - *For I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I'm not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God's church.*

1 Timothy 1:15 - *This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I am the worst of them all.*