



Daily Reflections

JOURNEYING THROUGH CHALLENGING TIMES

Image by Christine Sponchia from Pixabay

ST. PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS

By Sister Jeanne Fallon, CSJ

*May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our hearts,
that we may know what is the hope
that belongs to our call.*

EPHESIANS 1:17-18

As I was pondering the brief Gospel Acclamation in today's liturgy, I was struck by Paul's prayer that God extends an invitation to the Jews as well as to the Gentiles, to receive the revelation that all are destined to share in the redeeming work of Jesus Christ. Paul, first of all a Jew, is also called to be an Apostle of Jesus Christ. His prayer is that all may awaken to the wisdom God has poured into their hearts. I suggest that you read a few different translations of this passage, attending to your inner movements as you respond to Paul's prayer.

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has

called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints...

(New Revised Standard Version)

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones...

(New American Bible)

I pray that the Father of honor and beauty, who is the Great Spirit of our Honored Chief Creator Sets Free (Jesus), will gift you with a spirit of wisdom to know him deeply and understand his mysterious ways. I am asking him to shine his light into your hearts so you can see clearly the hope he has chosen us for and the beautiful treasure he has in us, his holy people.

(First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament)

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit...

(The Jerusalem Bible)



Gate of Pursuit in Ephesus
Photo by Sr. Jeanne Fallon, CSJ

For Pondering & Prayer

- As you slowly read the different translations of Eph. 1:17-18, did you notice

if one translation spoke to you more than the others?

- Do any words or phrases have a deeper meaning to you?
- You may wish to pray Paul's prayer again, this time for your own spiritual awakening or for your beloved family member or for your friends and colleagues.

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