

The Greatness of the Power of God
Ephesians 1:19-20

The Greatness of the Power of God

In verses 19-20, is the continued apostolic prayer from Paul for believers' growth in the person of Jesus Christ and the Plan of God.

Ephesians 1:18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

Ephesians 1:19 and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might

Ephesians 1:20 which He brought above in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

We have three questions in verses 18-19. Each of the questions centers on Jesus Christ. So if you learn the answer to these questions you learn more about the wisdom and power of Jesus Christ. Ephesians chapter 1 answers a great deal about Jesus Christ.

Three *indirect questions* will be asked.

First question was so that *you may know what is the confidence of His calling*. First question is about the calling of Christ throughout human history.

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Second question was about the inheritance of Christ. *What are the riches of the glory of His inheritance.* The second question is about the riches of the glory of His inheritance.

And now the **third** interrogative pronoun is *what is the surpassing greatness of His Power.* This question comes in regard to the greatness of His power for us who believe. So here is our understanding in Ephesians chapter 1.

1. Jesus Christ is the one to control human history.
2. Jesus Christ is the inheritance of human history.
3. Jesus Christ is the power of human history.

In fact, if you ever wonder about what or how God speaks concerning His Son, you will get an idea here in verse 19.

Ephesians 1:19 And what is the surpassing greatness of His Power...

In English we have such words as *beautiful, magnificent, and brilliant*. In the Greek we have the word *huperballo* defined in the Greek as *surpass, excel or exceed*. According to *The complete Biblical Library* this word is used but five times in the New Testament, in 2 Corinthians and Ephesians. In all five passages the participle is used to describe the overwhelming greatness of some attribute or work of God.

1. 2 Corinthians 3:10 *surpassing glory of **His righteousness**.*
2. 2 Corinthians 9:14 of the '*surpassing **grace***' of God.
3. Ephesians 1:19 *the surpassing greatness of **His power***
4. Ephesians 2:7 *the surpassing riches of **His grace**.*
5. Ephesians 3:19 *the surpassing knowledge of **the Love of Christ***

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1) *Surpassing glory*; 2) *surpassing grace*; 3) *surpassing greatness*; 4) *surpassing riches*; 5) *surpassing knowledge* but now there is one word that excels even these...and that is power.

I don't know if you think of God's power very often, but in the Bible this is one of the most important attributes of God.

The Holy Spirit is putting together in Ephesians 1:19 the word *surpass*, or *excel* with the word *megethos* used only once by Paul the word *greatness*, used in describing the ***power of God***.

-----*surpassing greatness of His Power*-----

and what the surpassing greatness or overwhelming magnitude of His power. Speaking about the power of God. Here is God the Holy Spirit describing the power of God.

Let me simply reveal to you something so important about your life: *God has more power than all that exists, and more power than you will ever need*. This Greek word refers to power with full ability. To give you some of the fullness of this word, notice that Plato uses *dunamis* as the “essence of existence.” Or as it is proclaimed in Classical Greek as *the creative power of the kosmos, as the created world*’. The Complete Biblical Library, vol. 2. What the Holy Spirit is telling us here is the unlimited grace of God's power.

The place to see this in another passage in Romans 8:28:

Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

we know. Here is the secret to your life—knowing.

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that...all things. This refers to everything that happens in your life everything that happens in history--*all things that can happen.*

work together. As the Complete Biblical Library says that this ‘good’ does not happen magically simply because a believer claims to love God, but all things that come together for the image of Jesus Christ.

for good. To glorify Jesus Christ and His plan and purpose.

to them. This refers to believers in Jesus Christ.

who love God. this of course means loving God in the power and leading of the Holy Spirit, not of human flesh.

to those who are called according to His purpose

When you add the believer living in the Holy Spirit with adversity, God is the power for all things to work for good in God’s plan. And here is the real grace for you, that no matter what the suffering is, it becomes as a blessing to the believer.

The Power of God

We are going to take a brief trip through the Power of God. We could spend months on His Power. You have to know His power in the multitude of things that happen through your life and how important His Power is, along with how important He is in history, all that is going on throughout the world today. As America falls, always remember the power of God. God is more powerful than all the movements by Satan throughout the world; God has a plan for history, for the Church Age and for the movement to the Tribulation, to the great battle of Armageddon to the wonderful period of the Millennium. We could start our study on the attributes of God, or the person of Jesus Christ through history, etc., but let’s start with an important verse in 2 Corinthians.

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1. Let's begin this study in

2 Corinthians 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;

We are but a jar of clay compared to God. God's power surpasses our power! God takes our weakness and turns it around for His glory.

We are but a jar of earth, into which God has poured His Glorious light of the knowledge of the glory of God. We are but a container of God's power. He has carefully poured into it treasure. I want you to remember everyday that God has set in you a treasure. Here is the great treasure God has set you in, His glory, His power, this is the treasure in you. We have the opportunity to share this glory forever, and this is a pressure treasure. Draw from this treasure every day of your life. The treasure is the only true issue. You can look at a beautiful wine bottle but the issue is the wine that is in the bottle. A lady may be beautiful; a man may be handsome, but the true issue is the treasure that is inside the person.

And God has placed the treasure of Christ in fragile jars of clay.
Notice

2 Corinthians 4:6 For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

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Our hearts are but a jar of clay, it is God who has poured into us what makes us valuable.

2. The power of God is the power that defeats Satan. I hope you never become discouraged in this world, because Jesus Christ has defeated Satan.

Luke 10:17 Now the seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name!”

Luke 10:18 And He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like lightning.

Luke 10:19 Behold, I have given you authority to walk on snakes and scorpions, and authority over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you.

Luke 10:20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.”

John 16:33 These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation but take courage; I have overcome the world.

Romans 16:20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.

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Hebrews 2:14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, so that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil

3. God is so powerful to bring salvation.

Let me share short line in Greek with you.

τὸ ὑπερβάλλον μέγεθος τῆς δυνάμεως, (to hyperballon megethos tes dunameos), ‘the surpassing greatness of His Power’

God’s power can bring us to salvation.

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written: “But the righteous one will live by faith.”

God’s power is more than enough to bring us to salvation.

Pay close attention to the fact that the power of God is for everyone who believes. God’s surpassing power is for us all who believe, not because you are intelligent, or successful and prayerful or learn a great deal of the Bible but only for those who believe! If you believe in Christ, God’s exceeding power is available for you.

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4. The power of God is in His Word.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

The Greek word for ‘*active*’ means *effective or powerful*.

So if you desire something in your life that is powerful, the most powerful on earth—come and study the Word of God.

5. The power of God is more powerful than death. Please never fear death, yours and anyone you love who is a believer. Have peace in your soul, for Jesus Christ is more powerful than death.

Acts 2:24 But God raised Him from the dead, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.

The power of Christ is greater than the power of death, so never fear death.

6. God’s power is greater and surpasses all human powers. Always remember that every human power has limits. But God’s power is limitless. His power always surpasses. The more that you and I realize that we are but jars of clay the more we will experience the power of God.
7. In science or in history power is determined by the things that power can and cannot do. The Word of God declares that '**God can do all**

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things,' In Luke 1:37 it is declared 'For nothing will be impossible with God.' This is rightly understood to mean that God can do all things that are possible, for God is omnipotent. One of the most comforting passages in the Bible is

**Job 42:2 I know that You can do all things,
And that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.**

Please allow this to give you peace in your soul as it gave to Job.

Another wonderful comforting verse is found in

**Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Him
who strengthens me.**

In answer to the impossibility of salvation Jesus replied:

**Matthew 19:26 ...'with people this is impossible, but
with God all things are possible'**

By the way, the only State of the US whose state motto is directly from the Bible is this phrase in the state motto of the state of Ohio. "With God, all things are possible"

8. The Holy Spirit is how the believer receives the power of God. In Acts 2:38 Peter tells us how to receive power of the Holy Spirit by telling us to receive the Holy Spirit by faith.

**Romans 15:13 Now the God of hope fill you
with all joy and peace in believing, so that you
will abound in hope, through the power of the
Holy Spirit.**

9. The power of God is greater than all of the power throughout the earth for all history. God is far above all power, all rule and authority that have ever existed. If we slowly study the

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Resurrection, Ascension and Session of Jesus Christ we will see that He is more powerful than three major power forces in history: *under the earth, on earth and the third is in the air.*

The first was under the earth where the first power-force is death.

Then on the earth and you come to the great force of gravity.

The third power force is the rulers or authorities in the air.

After His resurrection, the Lord Jesus overcame *death.*

Acts 13:30 But God raised Him from the dead

After His ascension He overcame the power of gravity on earth and, then when He was seated at the right of God, Jesus became more powerful than all the power of the air.

The most wonderful point for everyone of us who have believed Jesus as Savior is that we will be raised up by that same power.

1 Corinthians 6:15 Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.

Job 26:7 He stretches out the north over empty space And hangs the earth on nothing.

Job 26:8 He wraps up the waters in His clouds, And the cloud does not burst under them.

Job 26:9 He obscures the face of the full moon And spreads His cloud over it.

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Job 26:10 He has inscribed a circle on the surface of the waters At the boundary of light and darkness.

Job 26:11 The pillars of heaven tremble And are amazed at His rebuke.

Job 26:12 With His power He quieted the sea, And by His understanding He shattered Rahab.

Job 26:13 By His breath the heavens are cleared; His hand has pierced the fleeing serpent.

Job 26:14 Behold, these are the fringes of His ways; And how faint a word we hear of Him! But His mighty thunder, who can understand?"

10. There are many verses throughout the Bible that gives us confidence and peace by the power of God and the power Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is, Jesus who rescues us from the wrath to come. We have peace about the power of God in regards to our being taken up away from the Tribulation.

Exodus 14:14. "The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent." ...

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Psalm 27:1. “The LORD is my light and salvation; whom shall I fear?

Isaiah 41:10 Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, I will also uphold you with My righteous right hand

2 Chronicles 20:6 and he said, “O Lord, the God of our fathers, are You not God in the heavens? And are You not ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in Your hand so that no one can stand against you.

Jeremiah 10:12 It is He who made the earth by His power, Who established the world by His wisdom; And by His understanding He has stretched out the heavens.

13 When He utters His voice, there is a roar of waters in the heavens, And He makes the clouds ascend from the end of the earth; He makes lightning for the rain, And brings out the wind from His storehouses.

The great mistake by most of the world:

Matthew 22:29 But Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, since you do not understand the Scriptures nor the power of God.

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Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, that is, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, being understood by what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

Luke 1:35 The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; for that reason also the holy Child will be called the Son of God.

Hebrews 1:3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.