The Book of Ephesians

9

Morning Devotions

In your devotions this morning, read **Psalm 84**. As you read, talk to the Lord about the content of this psalm. When you have finished, go back and find one or two verses and meditate prayerfully on them.

Morning Study

This morning we will look at the second section of Ephesians, which falls between **Ephesians 2:11** and **4:16**. Again, we will divide this section into three sub-sections. Read each of them and answer for yourself the questions associated with them. Jot the answers down on a piece of paper and file the paper together with your morning study.

Read Ephesians 2:11-22

- Find the verse that summarizes the main thought Paul is seeking to communicate in this sub-section.
- Read 2:13-16 again. How has God made it possible for the two (Jew and Gentile) to become one?
- **Ephesians 2:19-22** reveals the ultimate purpose of God because of the truth Paul states here. What is it?

Read Ephesians 3:1-21

- ➡ In 3:2-13, Paul interrupts what he was about to say (see 3:1 and 3:14) to define his ministry. Summarize what he declares his ministry to be.
- ➡ From 3:16-18, list the three things Paul states he is praying for.
- What is Paul praying will be the ultimate outcome of the revelation of God's love to you (see 3:17-19)?

Read Ephesians 4:1-16

- ➡ In 4:11-16, what does Paul say is the main reason the Lord Jesus has given five special ministry gifts within the Body of Christ?
- ➡ Look again at 4:13. When does the responsibility of these ministries end?
- ◆ 4:13 also states what the final outcome of these ministries fulfilling their call and purpose will be. What is it?

MORNING STUDY

MEMORY VERSE

Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

Psalm 63:7-8

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see John 14:26).
- Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: reference; Step 2: verse content; Step 3: reference. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- The next day, before you begin commiting a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice (James 1:22). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts (John 15:7). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!

MEMORY VERSE