## Bible Study - December 9, 2020 <br> The Book of Ephesians - Chapter 3

This chapter closes the first half of Ephesians in which Paul has described our wealth in Christ. Paul is about to move into our walk with Christ.

## I. Paul's Explanation of His Ministry (3:1-12)

The first thing we note is that Paul calls himself a prisoner and that he connects his imprisonment to the Gentiles! Go back to Acts 22 for the explanation. Paul had been arrested in Jerusalem and was making his defense to his people.

Paul explains that God had given him a special revelation and a special stewardship (dispensation).

He terms this revelation: the $\qquad$ of $\qquad$ .

Matt. 3:2; Matt 4:12-17; Acts 7:54-60

Paul's ministry was to the Gentiles, and his message was that of grace, Paul's special task was to share the truth of the one body, the $\qquad$ of the $\qquad$ .

Rom. 16:25-26; Col. 1:26-27 and 4:3-4; Eph. 6:19; 1 Peter 1:10-12

## II. Paul's Intercession for the Saints (3:13-21)

You will recall that the two prayers in Ephesians are found here and in 1:15-23
A. The first is a prayer for $\qquad$ .
B. The second is a prayer for $\qquad$ .
1 Thes. 2:13; Col. 3:16; Acts 6:4

Verses 20-21 declare a thrilling benediction, closing this first section of the letter.
A. God works $\qquad$ us!
B. God works $\qquad$ us!
C. God is $\qquad$ in us!

As we close this first section, it would be helpful to note Paul's "spiritual postures," for they give us the secret of God's blessing.
A. Paul is $\qquad$ with Christ. (2:6)
B. Paul is $\qquad$ $\longrightarrow$ Christ. (2:20)
C. Paul is $\qquad$ down before Christ. (3:14)

## NOTES:

