

Experiencing God: Power

Ephesians 1: 11-23

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Introduction: D.L. Moody – “One man may have zeal without knowledge, while another may have knowledge without zeal. If I could have only one, I believe I should choose the first . . .”

- from his book, Secret Power

I. Hope

- a. There were two letters written to the Ephesian church – one by Paul who wanted their knowledge to increase (Eph 1: 17)
- b. The second letter by the apostle, John in Rev. 2: 1-3. Paul had wanted their knowledge to increase. John’s letter tells us that was an answered prayer. Hard work, perseverance, intolerance of evil, calling out false apostles and enduring hardship all were characteristics of the church at Ephesus.
- c. But the Ephesians had forsaken their first love. Their knowledge had increased, but their experience of God – had waned.
- d. There is bad news
 - i. Left to ourselves, God has a problem with all of us: sin and death.
- e. Bad news gets worse – there is nothing we can do about it in and of ourselves.
- f. Good news – There is hope.
 - i. God did for us what we could not do for ourselves.
 - ii. Prayer is an expression of faith – Lord Jesus I need your forgiveness. Come into my life, forgive my sin and make me the type of person you want me to be. Amen.

II. Riches

- a. Children (John 1: 12) and therefore heirs
- b. The Holy Spirit as down payment

III. Power

- a. Power from the Holy Spirit – Acts 1: 8
- b. Power to believe – Ezekiel 36: 26
- c. Power to live –
- d. Power for mission
- e. Power to satisfy your deepest longing