

What God Is Able to Do

Ephesians 3.20–21

Don Ruhl • Savage Street, Grants Pass, Oregon • July 5, In the year of our Lord Christ, 2020

Prelude:

I. First Point

20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Persuasion:

I. What Moved Paul to Glorify God?

A. “Now to Him,” showing that what Paul had just written

1. moved Him to speak of the unimaginable power of God.
2. So he was not just coming up with something to say about God’s ability.

B. This is actually a conclusion.

1. This concludes what you might call the Doctrinal Section of Ephesians.
2. The last three chapters comprise the Practical Section of Ephesians.
 - a) The Doctrinal part of the letter lays the ground work.
 - b) The Practical part of the letter shows how to live based on the ground work.
 - (1) The first section leads to the second section.
 - (2) The second section lacks motivational power without understanding what the apostle said in the doctrinal section.

II. What Had Paul Said in the Doctrinal Part of the Letter?

A. What did he say in 1.3–14?

B. What had he prayed in 1.15–19?

C. What had he taught in 1.20–23?

D. What was his main point in 2.1–10?

E. What was the mystery he wrote about in 2.11–3.13?

F. For what did he pray in 3.14–19?

III. Now Can You See What Moved Him to Write 3.20–21?

IV. The Extend of What God Is Able to Do

A. How did Paul emphasize God's ability?

1. God is not only able to do, but

a) he can do exceedingly above all that we ask or think,

b) he can do abundantly above all that we ask or think.

2. Just how far can we go with our requests and what we think?

a) It seems limitless to us, but

b) God can do or go beyond even that!

B. Where does God's power work?

1. It works in us.

C. Where is God's glory found?

1. It is found in the church.

2. However, through whom is it found in the church?

D. Was God's ability only restricted to the first century or the age of miracles?

1. Is Paul even discussing miracles?

2. Bringing Jews and Gentiles together through the cross was not a miracle, but it is the power of God.

Exhortation:

I. First Point