

Be Strengthened in the Inner Man – 03202005

- **Joshua Daniel**

Now my dear friends, prayer of St. Paul for the church at Ephesus, one of his great prayers. Ephesians the 3rd chapter from the 14th verse please: for this cause I bow my knees unto the father of our lord Jesus Christ of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named that he would grant you according to the riches of his glory to be strengthened with might by his spirit in the inner man. The inner man! You know some people have been very surprised with my intake of food that I can sustained, I can get on and do my work with so little food. I mean quantity wise. Friends have expressed it, people who host me my stay have expressed. While I am preaching a sense of hunger goes, new energy comes in, new grace comes in. well, when it is time for the lord to call me that's another matter that's upto him, I'll gladly go. But as long as he keeps me I want this inner strength that the lord according to his riches in glory should strengthen you cause you have to be strengthened with his might, with might by his spirit in the inner man. Inner man! The outer man is going to perish but we take such great care. Oh the outer man, the outer man, eat this. You know the way we take care of ourselves today. Medicine gets specialized, a surgeon gets left toe at the surgeon for the right big toe and so on and so forth. Oh we are being taken care of cuddled and spoiled on every side, this body, this outer man to keep ourselves in shape. Oh my! What about the inner man? Emptiness inside is a terrible thing my dear people. One of the deceases today is loneliness. I am lonely teenager! Are you lonely? Yes I am. There are such lonely people and so many people died without anybody there in attendance, 30,000 people in last summer in that heat wave. They said some of those people who were totally unattended to. Sad! There is such lonely and sad and empty people. And the prayer of St. Paul here is that we might be strengthened with might by his spirit in the inner man that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith. The indwelling Christ. You know I am trying to understand the doctrine, you know the real essence of Christ and I am saying to the lord I don't want this to be a parrot song. I don't want this to be some dogma. I don't want this to be some mental concept. I want it real. I want it real. I want to know Jesus. That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith. Can you think of that? Can you be the dwelling place of Jesus? And yet that is the prayer of St. Paul for these young Christians of Ephesus who had weathered terrible persecution to begin with. Suppose all of us walk out of this place with the consciousness there is Christ with in, Christ is not somewhere. He is within, he is within, he is with me. My dear friends don't you think your whole life and your attitude towards hardships, towards privation will be totally changed because you have Christ within. That Christ may dwell, that Christ may visit from time to time that is approximately our present condition. You know from time to time a little knock. Oh yes, lord yes, you are about to visit or we are going to have a little retreat and a nice time together. Oh that's fine but not the indwelling Christ. Have you got any concept of that? An indwelling Christ. Christ may dwell in you by faith, dwell, not visit. And what happens to you? You are thinking your outlook, your fears, your weaknesses what will happen to you then? When Christ indwells you. My beloved people but this is our heritage

this should not be a pie up in the sky. Not at all. This should not be just the theme of a sermon, no not by any means. It should be a present example, a present experience. Christ may dwell.

Last of all, what do we have hear? And to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge that you may be filled with all the fullness of god. What is it? Is it an empty phrase? Nice theological concept? What is this? What is this please tell me. What is this? What does it say? Fullness that you may be filled with all the fullness of god that you may have a little bit of Jesus Christ. That you may have a little portion from god. That's as much as you can take. No, that doesn't tell me that. What does it tell me? That you may be filled with a fraction, No, a portion, No, that you may be filled with all the fullness of god. To cap it all off as though this is not enough to completely flatten us which sheer wonder, does god have this for me? As though to cap it off he says now unto him who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that you can ask or think. So this is not the limit, there is an answer for your prayer which is exceeding abundantly above all that you can ask or think. Sometimes I claim this you know, Lord I am coming to you and I have known ocean how this is going to be worked out but I know this that you are able to do exceeding abundantly above all that I can ask or think and I mean it. You see my friends, what happens to your prayer then, your prayer gets amplified. Your prayer begins to encompass those riches and wealth. My dear friends I don't like theory at all. I hate theory, I hate philosophy, I hate big talk, I hate long talk. Do you know the high polluted stuff, I hate it. I want my feet down on earth. I want these things to be experienced not spoken off so he caps it off with this great benediction. Now unto him who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that you can ask or think unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages world without end. Amen.