

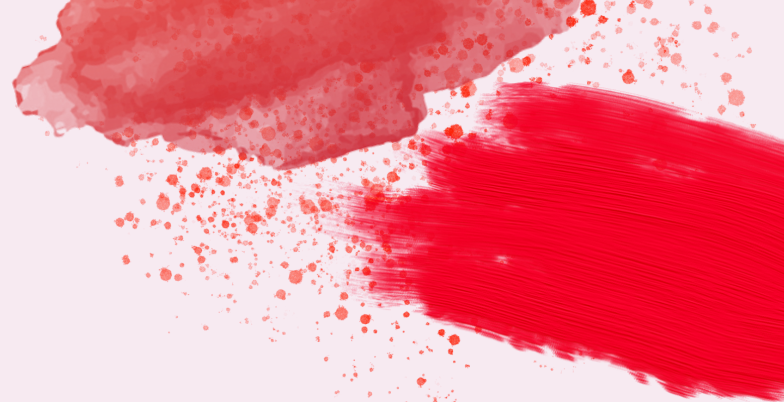
A.R.M.

Power

Ephesians

*Keywords Devotional*





## Ephesians Ch 1, v 19

and what is the exceeding greatness of His POWER toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty POWER

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The power of God is effectively working for those who believe in the gospel. This is the same power that raised Jesus from the dead and seated Him at the right hand of the Father.



## Ephesians Ch 1, v 21

far above all principality and POWER and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

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Jesus has been seated in a position of power and authority above all principalities, powers, mights, and dominions in existence. He has a powerful name that is above every name that will ever exist. The power of Jesus is infinitely superior to any other authority or power in existence.









## Ephesians Ch 2, v 2

in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the POWER of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

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There is an evil spirit that presently rules over this world. He is called the prince of the power of the air, and his limited power is at work in the lives of unbelievers. This limited, evil power is manipulating unbelievers to live as vessels for the purposes of darkness. This rebellious antichrist power is working through people to produce sin and death, but only as long as God allows. Because the forces of evil are finite, eventually the clock will run out, and this evil power will be completely removed from God's created world.










## Ephesians Ch 3, v 7

of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His  
**POWER.**


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Here, we see the power of God at work by effectively making Paul a minister of God's grace. God's grace and power are what qualify Paul to become a faithful steward of the gospel. Not only is Paul able to steward the gospel by the grace and power of God. But, that same power is what appoints Paul to become one of the pillars of the church.

## Connecting the Verses



The resurrection power of Jesus is at work when Paul is called and qualified by God to be an Apostle. Paul is now operating in the same unstoppable power of God that triumphed over the kingdom of darkness through the cross of Jesus. Because the enemy is rendered powerless over God's people, Paul can be an effective witness and minister of the gospel. None of God's enemies can stop God's purposes for Paul, now that the resurrection power of Jesus is what empowers him to do God's Kingdom work. This same triumphant power of Christ is what qualifies us to be everything God has called us to be for His Kingdom's purposes. We can love and serve God without being stopped by any of the forces of evil. God will have His way and His purpose will be accomplished through His triumphant power at work in His church.







## Ephesians Ch 3, v 10


to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and **POWERS** in the heavenly places,

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There are invisible principalities and powers in the spiritual realm, that are at work in our world. We don't see these forces of darkness, but we see their influence on the world around us. In the same way, there are good spiritual forces at work in our world, who are doing the will of God. Here, we see the wisdom of God being displayed to every principality and power in the spiritual realm. Its as if God's wisdom is put on full display, and the church is the display case for that divine wisdom. The wisdom of God is being made known to these powers in the heavenly realms, which means at once time it wasn't revealed. In other words, God is revealing His hidden wisdom to the spiritual powers in the heavenly places, and He's accomplishing this through His people.



## Connecting the Verses



We already know that the unstoppable, resurrection power of God is on our side because we are God's children. That same power resurrected Christ from the dead and seated Him in ultimate victory over every spiritual power in existence, which rendered the forces of darkness powerless over God's people. And, that same divine power appoints Paul and empowers him to be an effective minister of the gospel. But, there's something else God's power does. That same power qualifies the body of Christ to be a display case for God's wisdom. As the church, we reveal the hidden wisdom of God to the powers and authorities in the spiritual realm, and God's divine power is what enables us to do this. We've been appointed as God's chosen vessel (the church) to reveal His hidden wisdom to the spiritual powers and authorities. As we operate in the divine power of God, we are displaying that hidden, mysterious wisdom of God to both the world and the spiritual powers over this world.







## Ephesians Ch 3, v 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,

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The power of God is at work in us, as His people. One of the ways His power is effectively working is by accomplishing the impossible in our lives. In this context, the divine power of God is making it possible for the church to know His love and walk in that love for God and others. But, this is in the context of God answering the prayers of His people. In other words, God's unlimited power is the metric for what He can do in the lives of His people. That power is the measuring stick for what God can do as a response to the prayers of His people. God doesn't answer our prayers according to the limitations of our imagination or expectations. God's ability to answer our prayers is according to His unlimited power.









## Ephesians Ch 6, v 10


Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the POWER  
of His might.

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We are called to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His  
might. The power of our God can't be fully understood by  
finite creatures like us. We can only comprehend His power in  
a limited way. But, we need to know this power better every  
day if we are truly going to be strong in the Lord and the  
power of His might. In other words, we won't experience His  
power in our lives, if we don't grow in the knowledge of His  
power through His word.







God's power is at work in our lives, whether we're aware of it or not. But, it is our job to consciously choose to stand on His word and lean into His power through humble obedience. If we want to live in the power of God, we need to grow in our understanding of what He has accomplished for us. The longer we meditate on the gospel, the better we'll understand just how powerful our God is. And, as we better understand His power, we'll live according to that power. It's one thing to intellectually know that God has power over all spiritual forces, including sin, death, and the devil Himself. It's one thing to know that God the Son has triumphed over the grave through His resurrection. It's one thing to know that God has the power to answer our prayers in ways that exceed our expectations. But, it's an entirely different thing to actually live according to the power of God. Knowing that God is powerful isn't the same thing as living like He's powerful. Just because we know God has all power, doesn't automatically mean we will live like God has all power. Every day we need to make the conscious decision to be strong in the power of His might. This happens as we lean on His grace, love, and power more and more every day.








## Ephesians Ch 6, v 12

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against POWERS, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.


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As believers, we are constantly engaged in spiritual warfare. And, this battle is not with people, but with the spiritual powers and authorities in the heavenly places. In other words, our fight is with the invisible forces of evil and the powers of darkness in the spiritual realm. There are spiritual powers that are in rebellion to God, and therefore, in opposition to us since we belong to God.

## Connecting the Verses



The power of God is infinitely stronger than any spiritual force in existence. We know this because of the death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ. Every evil spiritual ruler and power was trying to stop Jesus from accomplishing the plan of God. But, He cannot be stopped. And, that same resurrection power is at work in our lives as God conquers the spiritual powers of evil through His people. We might be engaged in spiritual warfare constantly, but the war has already been won by Jesus. And, the unstoppable power of God enables us to live in Christ's victory over whatever spiritual powers we find ourselves up against.







## Ephesians Ch 3, v 20


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The power of God is at work in us, as His people. One of the ways His power is effectively working is by accomplishing the impossible in our lives. In this context, the divine power of God is making it possible for the church to know His love and walk in that love for God and others. But, this is in the context of God answering the prayers of His people. In other words, God's unlimited power is the metric for what He can do in the lives of His people. That power is the measuring stick for what God can do as a response to the prayers of His people. God doesn't answer our prayers according to the limitations of our imagination or expectations. God's ability to answer our prayers is according to His unlimited power.



## Connecting the Verses



The infinite power of God is the measuring stick for God's ability to answer our prayers. God has the power to accomplish our salvation through the death of His Son. He has the power to conquer the entire kingdom of darkness through the death and resurrection of Jesus. He has the power to appoint Paul as a minister of the gospel, and He has the power to make the church a display case for His hidden wisdom to be seen by the spiritual authorities and powers. If God has the power to do all these things, then certainly God can answer our prayers in such a way that exceeds our expectations and imagination. And, this is the power at work in our lives when we pray to the Almighty God of the universe.









## Ephesians Chapter 1, v. 15-23

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.







## Connecting Ephesians 1:15-23

The love and faith of the Ephesian church are proof of God's divine power at work in their lives as a community of believers. Only the resurrection power of God could make such love and faith possible among a group of people that used to be dead in sin. Only the divine power of God that has triumphed over the spiritual forces of darkness, can make way for this kind of love. And, this love and faith are part of how God reveals His hidden wisdom to the spiritual powers in the heavenly places.

Paul prays that the church would continue to grow in the knowledge of Christ as well as the hope they have in Him.

This hope is directly connected to the power that was displayed at the resurrection and ascension of Jesus. Jesus has triumphed over all spiritual powers in existence, and this gives us a great deal of hope. We have absolute victory in the unstoppable name of Jesus. He has won the war, and we're on the winning side. All of our spiritual enemies are defeated foes, just waiting for the day when Christ will destroy them once and for all.





## Connecting Ephesians 1:15-23 (Cont.)



Part of knowing Jesus better involves growing in our understanding of His victory over the spiritual powers of darkness. And, as we grow in this deeper knowledge of the gospel, greater love and faith will be produced in our lives. In other words, our ability to love one another is directly connected to the hope we have in Christ and His finished work. His powerful victory over darkness makes way for us to live in love and hope.

How? Because we can love people without fear. The strongest powers have been defeated by the ultimate power of God, and that gives us the kind of comfort and hope we need to freely love others without worry. Loving God and others while maintaining eternal hope, is exactly what it means to be strong in the Lord. But, if we're going to be strong in the power of God, we need to truly understand how powerful He actually is, which requires us to consistently meditate on His ultimate victory.





## Connecting Ephesians 1:15-23 (Cont.)



We need to long for a deeper knowledge of the power that resurrected Jesus from the dead and seated Him above all spiritual power because that same power is what produces love in our hearts and empowers us to live with absolute, eternal hope. Our hope is in Christ and it's based on His ultimate victory in the cosmic battle with the powers of evil. And, it's this divine power that we stand on in order to face the defeated powers of darkness.

We are covered by the name above every name, and we are shielded by the God that is above every spiritual power. And, this God fills us with His very presence so that we can be strong in His power as we love people through the living hope we have in Jesus.







## Ephesians Chapter 2, v. 1-10

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.





## Connecting Ephesians 2:1-10



There was a time when we were in a vicious, never-ending cycle of darkness. We were dead in sin, following the powers of darkness, and living as children of wrath. This was our reality and our identity. We were powerless to do anything about it. But, God saw our helpless, powerless condition.

And, with His infinite power, God chose to break this vicious cycle of sin and death for us in order to bring us into something entirely new. When Jesus conquered the spiritual powers of darkness, He was destroying the power of our old master. When He died on the cross, He defeated sin. When He rose from the dead, He defeated death. And, when He ascended to the right hand of the Father, He defeated every spiritual power in existence, so that we could be free in His name.



## Connecting Ephesians 2:1-10 (*Cont.*)



Now that the unstoppable power of God has set us free from our old masters, we can live in that same resurrection power through our faith in Jesus. God's power has raised us to new spiritual life in Christ and seated us with Him in heavenly places. Our position is secure through our faith in Him. We are seated in the authority of Christ, above all spiritual powers in existence.

But, not only are we seated with the One who has ultimate power, He even grants us that same power in order to continue what He started. When God saves us, He brings us into an entirely new mode of existence where we have ultimate victory over darkness, and then He sends us into the world with that same resurrection power working in our lives. We have been saved and created into something entirely new for a specific purpose.





## Connecting Ephesians 2:1-10 (*Cont.*)



God recreates us as His workmanship so that we can reveal the hidden wisdom of God to the defeated powers of darkness. We can live in victory over darkness by simply standing strong in the power of God, rather than relying on our limited wisdom and power. And, when we stand strong in His power through spiritual warfare, the hidden wisdom of God is being revealed to these defeated foes. How? Because God is using weak vessels to do the impossible by His divine power.

This is why God recreates us to be new people in Christ. We become a living display case for God's hidden wisdom to be seen by the spiritual powers of evil. Spiritual warfare is an opportunity to remind the enemy of their ultimate demise. We are made to experience victory in the power of Christ.







## Ephesians Chapter 3, v. 7-13

Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.





## Connecting Ephesians 3:7-13



Paul says that God's divine power is what appointed him to be a minister of the gospel. His ministry, his preaching, and his role as an Apostle are entirely based on the power of God.

Not only does God's power make it possible for Paul to become what he was, but God's power makes it possible for Paul to do what he does. Whenever Paul preached the gospel, the power of God was at work. The same force behind the resurrection was active during Paul's preaching.

In other words, we don't just rely on God's power to be saved.

We continue to rely on that same power as we live this new life He's given us. Paul says that when he preaches the gospel, he's inviting people into the unsearchable riches of Christ, which includes the power of God.



## Connecting Ephesians 3:7-13 (*Cont.*)



The gospel message clearly communicates the power of God through the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. So the gospel is about God's power, and preaching the gospel requires God's power. But also, the gospel message of Jesus is an invitation to come and live in that same resurrection power that's being shared. It's an invitation to become a vessel that God uses to display His wisdom and power to both the world and every spiritual power.

Paul also says that preaching the gospel is revealing the plan of God's hidden mystery. And, this mystery includes the fact that both Jew and Gentile can be connected to the unstoppable power and victory of Jesus. This mystery of the gospel reveals the hidden wisdom of God to the rulers and powers in the heavenly places. God's power and hidden wisdom are revealed through our salvation and also through our transformation.







## Connecting Ephesians 3:7-13 (*Cont.*)



Whenever we operate in the power of God through things like growing love and obedience, God's hidden wisdom is being made known to the powers of darkness in a way that reminds them of their ultimate demise. Whenever we become more like Jesus that same wisdom is being made known.

We're also told that have confident access to the throne of God through our faith in Jesus. We can approach the One who has all power and authority because Christ has made way for us. We're only able to approach God boldly because of the powerful resurrection and ascension of Jesus. His resurrection power has brought us where He is so that we can seek His face whenever we need Him.

And, as we boldly approach the throne of grace, we will find ourselves accessing the divine power of God. This is what it means to be strong in the Lord's power in the midst of spiritual warfare. God invites us to approach His throne to find the power we need to resist the defeated spiritual powers of darkness each day. God is powerful, but in order to access that power, we need to admit human weakness and depend solely on the One who has all power.









## Ephesians Chapter 3, v. 20-21

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever.

Amen.





## Connecting Ephesians 3:20-21



Not only is God's power seen in the resurrection and ascension of Christ, but its demonstrated through God's answers to our prayers. Remember, God's power is at work in our lives, and one of the ways He works His divine power is by answering the prayers of His people. But, God's ability and power to answer prayer is not limited to our asking.

God is able to do far beyond what we can even ask or think. God's ability to answer our prayers is not limited to our imagination or expectations. Rather, God answers our prayers according to His power at work within us. And, this gives God glory, when He powerfully moves in the lives of His people. God is glorified when His will is accomplished on the earth, and this will of God is higher and better than our ability to think or ask.





## Connecting Ephesians 3:20-21 (*Cont.*)

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If God only did what we could imagine, then He never would've sent His only Son to conquer the spiritual powers of darkness on our behalf. Our limited imagination could never have known to ask for such a divine work. God sends His Son to accomplish our salvation in full resurrection power, and He didn't wait for us to ask for such a thing.

God didn't wait for our expectations to match up with His divine plan, in order to recreate us into a living display case of His wisdom. If God had waited for Paul to pray to be an Apostle, Paul never would've become a minister of the gospel. God doesn't move according to the limitations of our minds. He moves in such a way that creates new categories in our minds. Everything God has accomplished by His divine power is the result of His mind; not our own.







## Connecting Ephesians 3:20-21 (*Cont.*)

This is why it's important to understand that we serve a God that doesn't need us to imagine or expect what He wants to do. He will do what He wants on the earth, and through our lives, whether we know to ask for it or not. The same power that raised Christ from the dead is at work accomplishing the impossible in our lives every day. And, one of the ways that God accomplishes the impossible is by answering the prayers that we don't even know to pray.

This doesn't mean we shouldn't pray. It does mean that when we pray, our imagination, perspective, and expectations are limited. God is not. We can pray according to the will of God the best we know-how, but we must pray with the understanding that our requests might be answered in a way that exceeds our expectations and ability to ask.





## Ephesians Chapter 6, v. 10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.







## Connecting Ephesians 6:10-20

We're told to be strong in the power of God in order to stand against the schemes of the devil. God has given us access to His life-giving energy (His power) so that we can experience daily victory over the enemy and his schemes. Christ has already achieved the ultimate, eternal victory over the devil and the kingdom of darkness, but it's our job to trust in that eternal victory as we engage in the daily battle.

This is how we stand on the unstoppable power of God. We aren't fighting to achieve victory; we're fighting from a place of victory. The spiritual enemy we fight has already been conquered by Jesus once and for all. In other words, we're fighting a defeated foe. And, God has given us His power in the form of spiritual armor. Each of these pieces of God's armor represents a different dimension of His divine power.



## Connecting Ephesians 6:10-20 (*Cont.*)



God makes His power available in accordance with the truth. In other words, God directs His power towards us as we're aligned with His truth. His power comes in the form of Christ's righteousness which makes us eternally acceptable in the sight of God. God's power defends us through our faith in His character, His finished work, and His word. His power makes way for us to walk in the peace that comes from the gospel so that we have the shoes of readiness on. His divine power shields our minds in the form of our eternal salvation. And, we can even wield the sword of the Spirit, which carries God's divine power to destroy demonic strongholds and take back territory from the enemy.

God has made His power available for us in more ways than we know, but it's our job to walk in that power and put on the spiritual armor of God. Every spiritual power is beneath the feet of Jesus. He has the ultimate, eternal victory over every demonic power and evil force. This is the unstoppable power that God promises is at work in our lives as we trust in His eternal victory.



