

For This Reason

Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason...

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

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.

Ephesians 3:14-21 (ESV)

Context Matters



**“A text
without a context
is a pretext”**

Context Matters



**“A text
without a context
is a pretext”**

Read, re-read the whole book

Grasp the whole message (and many nuggets)

Greg Koukl

For this reason...

For this reason *I bow my knees before the Father...*

Ephesians 3:14

For this reason, *because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints...*

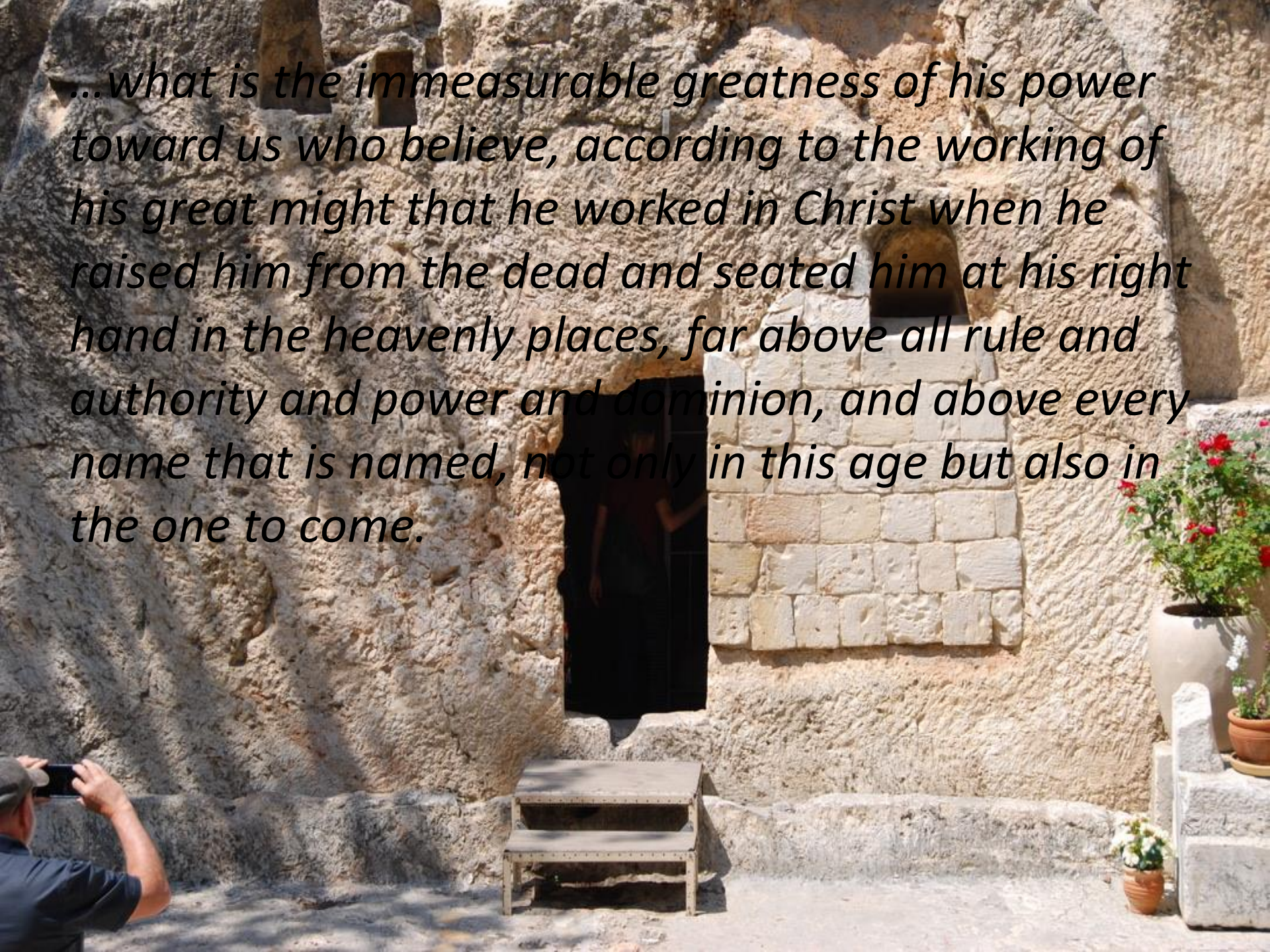
Ephesians 1:15

- *because God has done it all*
- *it was His delight to call us to Himself through Jesus, and*
- *lay out the plan for our redemption*

...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.

Ephesians 1:18-21 (ESV)

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Paul

A Jew, a Pharisee

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...the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ... 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....

Eph 3:6-8 (ESV)

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Eph 3:6-8 (ESV)

Prayer - Posture

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Prayer - Posture

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What matters is our “spiritual posture”

For this reason...

I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named....

Relationship

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith....

Eph 3:14-17 (ESV)

Paul's Prayer

- There is no limit to God's power.
 - infinite riches of God's glory (by which we are to be strengthened)
- We might know the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe
 - We place our trust in the living God (who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead)
- for God's transforming power to have its full effect in your inner being
- that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith
- mediated by the power of the Spirit in the Name of Jesus

Dwelling Places

that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith

Dwelling Places

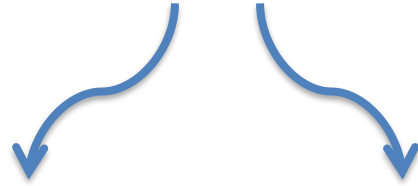
that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith



to inhabit a place
as a guest

Dwelling Places

that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith



to inhabit a place
as a guest

taking up permanent
residence



Christ lives there

Dwelling Places

that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith

to inhabit a place
as a guest

taking up permanent
residence

Christ lives there

Transformation

Dwelling Places

that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith

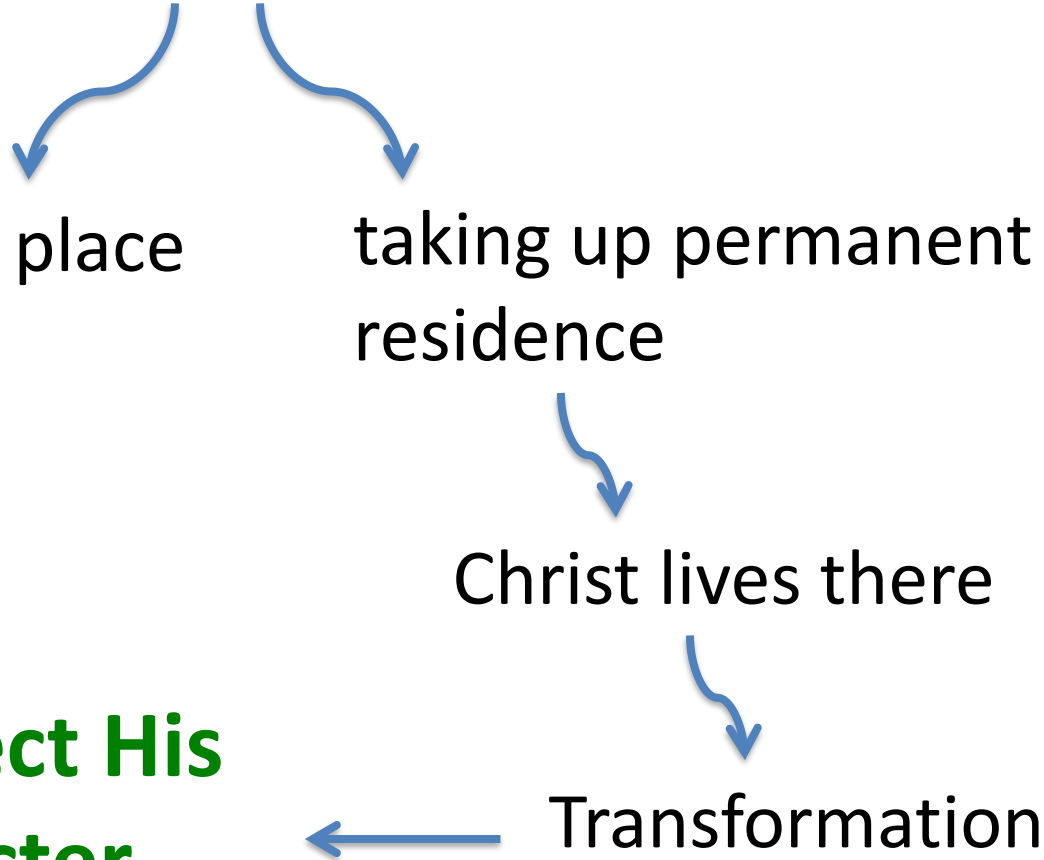
to inhabit a place
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taking up permanent
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Christ lives there

Transformation

**We reflect His
character**



The Love of Christ

...that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Eph 3:17-19 (ESV)

A Love Relationship

In love he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will... Eph 1:4-11 (ESV)

The Love of God

*The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell.
It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell.
The guilty pair, bowed down with care,
God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled
And pardoned from his sin.*

*Could we with ink the ocean fill,
And were the skies of parchment made;
Were every stalk on earth a quill,
And every man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,
Though stretched from sky to sky.*

Fred Lehman

Measuring Love

“the love of Christ is broad enough to encompass all mankind, long enough to last for eternity, deep enough to reach the most degraded sinner, and high enough to exalt him to heaven.”

John Stott

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.

Eph 3:20-21 (ESV)

**Let us as an assembly
purpose to bring Him
glory and honour and praise!**