The Wealth of the Believer

Outline:
doctrine – duty
wealth – walk – warfare

                     3:14-19  4:1-7  4:11-16  6:14-20

Ephesians 1: Spiritual blessings in the heavenly places
  The Doxology
  ▶ Father – chosen
  ▶ Son – redeemed
  ▶ Spirit – sealed

Prayer #1
  ▶ Thanksgiving to God
  ▶ Requests – to know:
    – the hope of His calling
    – riches of glory of His inheritance in the saints
    – exceeding greatness of His power
  ▶ Exaltation of Christ

Ephesians 2: The formation of the church
  Personal salvation – grace through faith to good works
  Corporate salvation – household of God

Three responses by Paul
  A prayer – Ephesians 3
  A call to walk worthy – Ephesians 4:1-6:9
  A call to stand – Ephesians 6:10-20

Ephesians 3: The Eternal Purpose of God
  A digression
  A prayer
“Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles”

Prisoner of Jesus Christ
Prisoner for the Gentiles
A digression (3:2-13)

Paul’s ministry

1. The dispensation
   - Greek – oikonomia – “economia”
   - dispensation or stewardship
   - a commission
   - a religious or political system prevailing at a particular time
   - the dispensation of the grace of God for the Gentiles

2. The revelation
   - special revelation to Paul
   - “a mystery”

3. The mystery
   - Gentiles are fellow heirs
   - Gentiles are of the same body
   - Gentiles are partakers of His promise in Christ

4. The ministry
   - A gift of the grace of God
   - Effective working of His power
   - Unworthy minister
   - Preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ
   - Eternal purpose of God
     - Display His Manifold wisdom
     - Display to principalities and powers
     - The display is in Christ

5. The admonition
   - Do not lose heart
   - Paul’s tribulation is glory for the Gentiles
For this reason . . .  
The wealth – all spiritual blessings in heavenly places.  
Our union with Christ  
Built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit

Prayer #2
Father of Lord Jesus Christ
   ▶ An essential distinctive
   ▶ Whole family in heaven and earth
   ▶ The riches of His glory

Requests:
   ▶ Holy Spirit – Strength/enablement
   ▶ Christ – indwelling by faith; love
   ▶ God – fullness

Benediction
   ▶ God’s omnipotence
   ▶ God’s omniscience
   ▶ God’s glory
   ▶ Now to Him – compare with Romans 11:33-36
   ▶ In the Church – by Christ Jesus – forever