

ROBERTSVILLE BIBLE CHURCH

April 11, 2021

Thank you for being a part of our service today. We trust that you will receive a blessing from being with us and hearing a message from the Word of God. May the Lord bless you as you serve Him.

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE (Please use this time to quietly prepare your heart for worship)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #400 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

SCRIPTURE READING 1 John 1:1-4

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN #56 To God Be the Glory

HYMN #4 Praise the Savior

HYMN #526 The Solid Rock

BIBLE MESSAGE Pastor Ernie Brodie, Jr.

HYMN #607 Close to Thee

CLOSING PRAYER

Announcements

Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. - Prayer Meeting

Business Meeting - This Wednesday, April 14, 7:00 p.m.

1 John 1:3-4: That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

Paul's Prayer - Ephesians 1:15-23

Rev. Dr. Ernest Brodie Jr.

Two Marks of Genuine Believers - Ephesians 1:15-16

1. Faith in the Lord Jesus (Acts 4:12).
2. Love for other believers. Real love for other believers is manifest in our private prayers. Paul's example is found in verse 16: "Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers." Biblical love is different than the love the world professes. Worldly love is sensual, selfish, and sin seared or tolerant of sin. Biblical love is godly and centered on divine standards. It is genuine and gracious or full of grace, forgiving, non-judgmental, and discerning. Biblical love must be continually cultivated by knowledge.

Paul's Prayer Request - Ephesians 1:17-23:

1. That you may know God's perfect will (verses 17-18). Paul prays that they may receive a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. In other words, he prays for their spiritual enlightenment. As His chosen inheritance, God wants us to know the hope of His calling and the riches of His glory. Often we seek God's will on certain personal issues while ignoring His general will for our lives. The two go together. God has chosen us to openly display Him in our lives through our actions and associations (Ephesians 1:12). We are to live out our faith through good works (Ephesians 2:10). God will reveal His perfect will for us as we apply His wisdom to our lives and make wise choices. Paul's prayer is that we would know God's omniscience.
2. That you may know God's great power (verses 19-20). Paul speaks of God's power as great. His power is far beyond our strength. Sometimes we know God cares, but we think our situation is beyond His reach and power. As a wise king once stated, there is nothing new under the sun (Ecclesiastes 1:9). Our feelings, struggles, and trials are not new to mankind, nor are they something beyond God's reach or ability. Paul's prayer is that we would know God's omnipotence.
3. That you may know God's fullness (verses 21-23). Why should we rely on God? God is superior to all other powers (verse 21). The thought here is that no one, not even the powers that be, can separate us from God (Romans 8). Colossians 1:16-17. God is in charge of all things (verse 22). Colossians 1:17. God is the head of the church (verses 22-23). Figuratively, the church is His body. He holds a personal interest in our lives. Colossians 1:18-19. God is with us, even in the valley of the shadow of death (Psalm 23). You cannot experience His fullness if you do not know Him personally. Paul's prayer is that we would know God's omnipresence.

As Christians, we are complete in Him. With a God like this, why would we allow fear and insecurity to grip our hearts? (Colossians 2:10). Do not allow the sorrows of life to weigh you down.