



05 APRIL 2026 AM

Ephesians 1:19-20

STUPEFIED

= affected with sudden wonder or surprise

...what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places...

Ephesians 1:19-20

INTRODUCTION

👉 **John 20:1-9**

- Mary Magdalene had come to the tomb and found it empty...she immediately went to find the disciples and tell them what she had discovered

Peter and John ran to the tomb, found the stone rolled away, and cautiously entered

Peter found the burial cloths and the napkin that had been wrapped around Jesus' head

John went in, look around...and believed

but believed what?

verse 9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead

cf **Mark 9:31**

👉 **Ephesians 1:19-20**

- years later, the Apostle Paul was consumed by thoughts of the resurrected Lord

on the Road To Damascus, he had seen the resurrected Christ and was forever changed and compelled by that image (**Acts 9**)

Philippians 3:10

That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

Romans 1:4

And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

Romans 6:4

Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

- in fact, as he prayed for the church at Ephesus, he was again **STUPEFIED** by thoughts of what Christ had done...on the cross, in the grave, and now at the right hand of God

he was worked up to the point of being overwhelmed and astounded, shocked and moved beyond words to describe the power of God in the resurrection of Christ

- whether it be because of technology or longevity or immersion...far too few of us are **STUPEFIED** by anything anymore

nothing moves us...nothing brings us to a loss of words

but this morning perhaps we can catch just a glimpse of this awesome power

NOTE: Paul's prayer sought: the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints (17-18)

1. ITS DIRECTION

...what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe...

it was an **EXCEEDING GREATNESS**

in our day, we would use prefixes such as hyper-, ultra-, mega-, or super- in order to describe it

mega-millions, superman, ultra-conservative

Paul reached as far into his own vocabulary and began to stack up as many words as he could...this power of God was like nothing else he knew

it was directed **US-WARD**

the English word is only found twice in the NT

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

in other words, God raised Christ from the dead so that we would know this power was available to us in our Christian life

NOTE: we can understand something of this amazing power simply by lifting our thoughts to the heavens:

as bright as our sun is, it is only rated as the fifth magnitude...there are other stars that shine 5x brighter

it is 864,000 miles in diameter

consists of 335 quadrillion cubic miles of hot gas

weighs more than 2 octillion tons

orbits our solar system one every 200 million years

2. ITS DIMENSIONS

...according to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead...

Paul stacked up a few words here:

power (*kratos*) demonstrated power

might (*ischus*) physical strength

working (*energeia*) stored energy

Ephesians 6:10

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord,
and in the power of his might.

imagine a large eighteen-wheeler: as it is loaded to capacity, it is able to pull large amounts of weight (**power**)...the engine provides this ability through its horsepower (**might**)...but until someone gets in and turns the key, it can do nothing (the key is the **working** of the truck)

in the same way, God demonstrated His power by raising Christ from the dead

wrought = working

Matthew 28:1-4

In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulcher. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: and for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.

again, this is just something we are accustomed to reading...a Sunday school story, etc.

it's not really applicable to our lives...right?

3. ITS DISTINCTION

[God] set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come...

Jesus was raised from the dead and then set in the place of distinction in the center of Heaven

Christ, of course, presented His blood as payment for our sins...led the souls out of Abraham's bosom, etc.

but absolutely **NOTHING** comes near to the distinctive place the Lord Jesus Christ holds...in Heaven above or in creation below

Philippians 2:9-11

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

not principalities = rank

not power = authority

not might = force (dynamite)

not dominion...names = governments

capitalism, communism, humanism,
socialism, or theocracies

in this world and the one that is to come

Paul went over and above to fully emphasize the power and position of Christ...not only in God's sovereignty, but also in our salvation and relationship with Him

verse 23 [the church] is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

with all that power, we are complete in Him, but without us, Christ is incomplete! (Colossians 2:9-10)

He is in everything...and He fills everything that He is in