

**INCOMPARABLE
POWER**

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- Have you ever felt powerless? (over a pattern; in a circumstance)
- Paul prays that the church will have revelation: (1) To know God better; (2) To know who they are in Christ – (a) The hope of their calling; (b) the riches of their inheritance; and (c) His incomparably great power for us who believe.

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- Ephesians 1:17-23, “I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- Ephesians 1:17-23, “That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.”

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- **We need revelation about His incomparably great power for us who believe.** The church at Ephesus had come out of magic arts; they had seen spiritual power displayed, and had to appease these dark powers that they had witnessed with magic. Paul wanted them to know the vastness, the superiority of Christ's power – he knew they didn't just need teaching. They needed this truth to be impressed on their hearts & accessed in their lives by the revelation of the Spirit.

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- Paul nearly exhausts the reservoir of power terminology in the Greek language in this paragraph, as he seeks to impress this truth on their hearts.
- In magic, people often sought spiritual power as a means of influencing and gaining ascendancy over people and circumstances; Paul argues that the power of God manifested in the lives of believers is to help them resist evil forces, live virtuous lives, and manifest love to people. (fulfill their kingdom call)

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- In our day and age we need revelation about his incomparably great power for us who believe as much as they did. (Epoch shift; entitlement & victimization – create passivity – nothing I can do; "You may have been victimized, but you are not a victim")

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- This power is not our power. It is His incomparably great power for us who believe. We have access to the power of Jesus. Just how great is that power? Paul illustrates it for us in four ways:
- First, his incomparably great power raised Christ from the dead. This power is for you. (v. 19-20, “That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead.”) (resurrection power – life)

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- Second, his incomparably great power enthroned Christ far above. This power is for you. (v. 19-20, “That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he . . . Seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.”) (heavenly realms)

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- Second, his incomparably great power enthroned Christ far above. This power is for you. (v. 19-20)
- We need revelation to understand the authority of Christ. He is not first among many peers. He is Lord of all. There is no competition for his throne room. In a day of pluralistic, politically correct, syncretistic beliefs where tolerance is the number one value – the Lordship of Christ is threatened in our minds, but not in the heavens. (darkness rules the hour, but Jesus wins; deliverance)

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- Third, his incomparably great power subjected everything under Christ's feet. This power is for you. (v. 19-20, "That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he . . . Placed all things under his feet.") (conquered foes)
- The struggle takes place between the church & the evil powers. They battle against us. (keys of the kingdom – Genesis to now) (authority – touch heaven, change earth)

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- Fourth, his incomparably great power appointed Christ as head over everything for the church. This power is for you. (v. 19-20, “That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he ...Appointed him to be head over everything for the church.”) God manifested his unsurpassed power in Christ by making him the ruling authority over heaven and earth for the benefit of the church.

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- Fourth, his incomparably great power appointed Christ as head over everything for the church. This power is for you.
- We need revelation to apprehend the vastness of this power for us who believe – it is for our benefit. We are heirs of God, and co-heirs of Christ (Romans 8).

INCOMPARABLE POWER:

- Fourth, his incomparably great power appointed Christ as head over everything for the church. This power is for you.
- He is the head. We are the body; headship has to do with leadership, authority. As we surrender to his leadership, we can use his authority to advance his kingdom over the dark powers. He wants to fill us, so he can fill the world (v. 23). (picture of you filled with the Spirit on Kingdom mission)

