

# ***Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles***

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January 5, 2024 – Praying the Apostolic Prayers – Erlinda Cruz

## ***Understanding the Hope of Our Calling***

Paul prayed a general prayer that people receive revelation of the knowledge of God (what God and His kingdom are like). Then, he prayed that they experience 3 specific dimensions of God's glory that would cause them to persevere in godliness. The sequence here is important to notice.

1. We pray to understand God's calling for our life, both in this age and the age-to-come.  
We must have a clear vision for what our destiny is and what we are to do.
2. We pray to know who we are to God as His treasured inheritance.
3. We pray to experience God's power in our heart, ministry and life.

## **Walking in Confidence in God's Calling for Our Life**

"That you may know what is the hope (assurance/confidence) of His calling..."

Ephesians 1:18

One of the fundamental longings of the human heart is to participate in that which has deep and lasting significance and relevance. We are restless and agitated in our spirit until we answer this longing. We can only fulfill this longing in relationship with God.

We must have a clear vision for our life by knowing what we are to do in our partnership with God. God answers our longing for significance by giving each of us a unique calling or assignment. This is a vast subject that includes our inward life as well as our outward ministry. It has both individual and corporate dimensions for this age and the age-to-come (2 Thes 1:11).

The hope or confidence about our calling is an anchor in our soul. Having hope or confidence that what we do is important to God gives us a sense of destiny before God and makes us steady.

"This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast..."

Hebrews 6:19

Seeing ourselves in God's drama changes us. Josiah (1 Kings 13:2 nearly 300 years before 2 Kings 23:15-20), Cyrus (Isaiah 44:28-45:8), Alexander the Great (Daniel 8:5-8), David, Paul, and the apostles saw themselves in God's plans (1 Chronicles 28:4; Matthew 19:28; Acts 13:47; Isaiah 49:6).

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If we have nothing to die for (to give all for) then we have nothing to live for, thus, we live bored. The principle of wholeheartedness is seen in part with unbelievers (business, arts, athletics, communism, terrorists). False teaching on grace offers insurance while continuing in sin and passivity without imparting urgency or power to live in wholeheartedness.

The very design of our spirit requires our wholeheartedness if we are to consistently feel strong and joyful. We live different when we see ourselves in God's story by seeing our purpose. The turning point comes when we understand that we also can go deep in God as others have. We then begin to cry out to God, "Why not me? I want to go deep in God like others from history."

"Where there is no revelation (vision), the people cast off restraint (discipline)."

Proverbs 29:18

Having skill to understand is a spiritual operation. We are in a season where a strong anointing to manifest this gift is being poured out so we may have a right perception of the end times and how to navigate the narrative of this time.