****March 26, 2017**

**Wealth Walk Work: Power Pointers From Ephesians– Part 1**

*(Wealth)*

**Intro:**

“You don’t have to know a lot of things to be great, just know a few things greatly”.

“You don’t have to master a lot of things, but let a few things master you.”

**Today:**  3 key things Jesus wants us to know and be mastered by found in the book of Ephesians which progresses in the following pattern:

Our ‘Wealth’ … in Him

Our ‘Walk’ … through Him

Our ‘Warfare’ victory… by Him.

Many well-meaning folk often lose the battle because their walk is not firmly rooted on the wealth freely given to them in Christ.

Today we explore that wealth a bit.

God is committed to us fulfilling the high call on our lives:

**Romans 8:29** Conformists ☺ (As image bearers of His Son!)

**Context :The Book of Ephesians** starts with the **wealth of God** freely given to us in Christ in a lavish way.

(Remember the Father’s heart in the story of the prodigal son)

‘ Rich in **mercy**’ and ‘great love’ – **Ephesians 2:4**

‘Exceeding **riches** of His grace’ - **Ephesians 2:7**

**Who me? - Seated on the throne…with Jesus!?**

**Ephesians 2:4-6**

**The difference between ‘Mercy’ & ‘Grace’**

*“Oh, but I feel so unworthy”*

You **were** unworthy, but now in Christ you are given…

**Mercy:** God’s pity and forgiveness to us where we have gone wrong

 (Grk - ‘eleos’: mercy, pity, compassion)

**Grace:** God’s favor (advancement) He gives us on top of mercy

 (Grk - charisma: a free gift of undeserved favor)

**Back to the book: Ephesians 2:6**

Keep looking down! – what?

Depends on whether you see things from God’s perspective or not.

That’s why we need the prayer Paul prayed for the Ephesians…

 …It does not come automatically.

**Prayer of ‘revelation’**

**Ephesians 1:17-19**

For born again, spirit-filled folk who still needed prayer to have their ‘eyes opened’

**Read that earlier passage one more time Pastor**

**Ephesians 2:5-6**

Knowing who you are in Christ and what He’s already done for you…

 …sets you up for ‘walking a walk’ that pleases God as image bearers of Christ

**Final take away & Communion**

* The incredible wealth and life of ‘ease’ was forfeited by the first Adam in the Garden of Eden.

 -Tree of knowledge of good and evil.

* The incredible wealth and life of ease was restored in the garden od Gethsemane.

 -Tree of life

* Jesus is the ‘Tree of life’ and we partake of this life by remembering His completed work on the cross during communion.