

He says, Wherefore I also after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and love unto all the brethren, cease not to give thanks for you making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory may give you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him; the eyes of your understanding being enlightened (spirit of wisdom -- see he's the understanding the will of the Lord) . . . that you may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints (the riches of the glory -- we immediately think the riches of the glory of Jesus Christ and what he has done for us; the riches of the glory of what God's will is for us and of the wonderful blessings we have through all eternity! Yes, that is greatly taught in Scripture, Tremendously important. But that's not what Paul is speaking of here. He says, What the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints. In other words, all who are saved are properly called saints. A saint is one who is sanctified. If a person has truly been justified he is on the road of sanctification; he is being sanctified. He is a saint. Paul says the riches of the glory of God's inheritance in the saints.

So God has a purpose for us to be His inheritance (in the saints). It is also mentioned in the OT in Malachi. There we find in 3:16-17 that then they that feared the Lord spoke often one to another and the Lord hearkened and heard and a book of remembrance was written for them that feared the Lord and that thought upon his name, and they shall be mine says the Lord of hosts in that day when I make up my jewels. So Christians are God's jewels. God is intending to make us such that they will be His treasure through all eternity.

Well, we have a long way to go, with most of us. It's like a diamond you might say which is dug up out of the ground. They did up what looks like a dirty piece of glass without much shape or form to it. You look at that thing and you'd never think that would make a beautiful jewel someday. But it has to be cleaned and polished. Not only that, but the time will come when that diamond will be put on a table and when a strong chisel will be put over it, put in exactly the right position, and a very very skillful artisan will take a hammer and will hit that chisel, and if he isn't holding it in exactly the right way he completely ruins the diamond. But if he does it in just the right way, he makes a very beautiful diamond that is worth a great deal. If he does it not quite the right way he may have to cut it in two and discard parts of it and may get two small diamonds. But that diamond has to be worked upon in order to get it suitable to be a jewel. It is God's purpose to prepare us that we may truly be His jewels.

So a very important part of life is the experiences we go through in fitting us to be such as He desires us to be in order that we may actually be His tools. In Heb. 12:11 the Apostle says, Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous but grievous, nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. In v.12, Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down and the feeble knees. God wants us to help one another in this process.