

Paul's Prayer & Our Desires

Ephesians 3:14-20

Ephesians 3:14-19 *For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

Being strengthened with power comes from:

- 1) Christ making His dwelling in our hearts more and more
- 2) Being rooted and grounded in His love
- 3) Comprehending the magnitude of His love

I want to spend some time unpacking for you what the key to everything in the Christian life is in leading us to what is the supreme goal of the gospel. The goal of this prayer in vv.19 and 22 is that you might be filled with the fullness of God. The ultimate goal in the Christian life is to be brought to nothing less than God's glory, and brought to Him who is supreme in His greatness and worth in the universe. This is the path to being brought to God's glory as the supreme treasure in our lives, to His praise and our joy.

Here in Paul's prayer he not only seeks and prays for the glory of God to fill our lives and our church, but he is actually praying that you might be brought to the greatest treasure in the universe, which is to be made into the likeness of the one in whom our every desire is met and satisfied because He is infinitely great or glorious.

If that is the path that we are moving towards, then it is also the path to everything else we need in the Christian life. It is the key to the complete and fullness of joy as believers, endurance in suffering, peace in adversity, obedience in temptation, forgiveness when wronged, the ability to stand firm, sacrificial love, assurance, the ability to serve sacrificially, and overcoming habitual sin. It is the key to being a church where the fullness of God dwells, where His glory dwells to His praise and our joy, and where His manifold wisdom in the riches of Jesus is displayed.

Paul says that the key is having your life transfixed on, consumed by, filled with, swept over by, invaded by, and being rooted and grounded in the supreme love of Christ in the gospel and at the cross. The reason why many of us live powerless, joyless, mediocre, disobedient, distracted, unsatisfied, and idolatrous lives is because we have not grasped the supremacy of Jesus and His gospel in our lives, and we have not grasped the supremacy of Jesus and His gospel as the ultimate treasure in our lives. Paul does the same thing in his letter to the Colossian Christians. Colossians 2:6 - *⁶Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.*

The prayer that Paul prays here in Ephesians echoes and expands on **how** this takes place and **how** we can make the supremacy of Jesus and His cross mean everything to us in our lives, all to God's glory and our fullness of joy in life. It is the key to everything in the Christian life.

Seeking The Riches Of God's Glory in Jesus

Firstly, I want you to notice that Paul prays 'according to the riches of His glory'. His prayer is grounded in the riches of God's glory; there is no higher ground, and there is no beyond this; you can't get any higher than the riches of God's glory. Ephesians 3:14-17a *For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power (ESV) (In the NIV it says: I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power.)*

Notice the foundation, basis, and source of Paul's prayer as he makes his request. **He prays by making his request according to the riches that are found in God's glory.** Paul is asking for nothing less than the riches of God's glory. They are riches that are found in God's infinite greatness and worth, riches that are found in God's holiness as supreme over all, and riches that are found in God who is an incomparable treasure. Here in Ephesians the riches of God's glory is seen most supremely in His work of grace, and in the saving work of Jesus. Here in Ephesians the riches of God's greatness and worth above all things is seen most supremely in the saving work of Jesus.

Ephesians 1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the **riches** of his grace.

Ephesians 1:18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the **riches** of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

Ephesians 2:7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable **riches** of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 3:8 To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable **riches** of Christ.

The riches of God's glory is seen and displayed supremely in Jesus and His saving work. In fact, that is how the letter of Ephesians began: Ephesians 1:3, *God the Father is praised because he has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing – there is nothing you do not have in Christ, because in Jesus you are given God himself.* The cross of Jesus is the supreme display of the glory of God in the universe, and Jesus and His saving work is the riches of God's glory on display that overflows and sweeps us away. Compare this to what is said in 2 Corinthians 4:6 - *For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.* (see also Hebrews 1:1-3)

From being chosen in Jesus before the foundation of the world, to being adopted through Jesus into His family as sons and daughters, being redeemed by the blood of Jesus, having our sins forgiven because of Jesus, having our wrath and judgment taken away by Jesus – *who stands in my place and is crushed for my sin as an atoning sacrifice, as my wrath*

bearer, as my substitute for sin - to being made alive with Jesus, being seated with Jesus, being made right and at peace with God in Jesus – *who clothes me in his righteousness so that I might know and stand before God and not be destroyed* - to being brought into God's new family in Jesus, being made a dwelling place where God dwells where Jesus is the cornerstone, and being built up in Jesus as God's new community (chs.1-3 so far) , notice where the riches of God's glory lies amongst all this - it is **in Christ alone**.

The implications are tremendous for us as believers to understand and grasp that complete sufficiency in the Christian life is found in Jesus and His saving work, infinite power and strength in the Christian life is found in Jesus and His saving work, never failing comfort and security in the Christian life is found in Jesus and His saving work, maturity and growth in the Christian life is found in Jesus and His saving work, and unbroken joy and happiness in the Christian life is found in Jesus and His saving work.

Everything we seek and pursue in life is a treasure that we hope will bring us these things, and everything we do in life is really the pursuit of riches that we hope will bring us these things. But our problem is that we settle for so little; we settle for cheap imitations in life, for temporary riches and easily stolen riches. Paul reminds us, as he prays, that there are treasures and riches in God's glory that surpasses anything we consider a treasure in life. Psalm16:11 says that where God's glory dwells is where He makes known to us the path of life; in His presence there is fullness of joy, and at His right hand where Christ reigns supreme are pleasures forevermore. **Do you believe that?**

The Father offers us riches that flow from Him who is infinitely great and worthy in whom there is no equal, nothing lacking, infinite power, every perfection, unfailing love, beauty supreme, justice and righteousness, and overflowing kindness and goodness. Yet what weak creatures we are, what blind creatures we are, and what poor creatures we are in settling for anything but Him in our lives. Paul, in his prayer, goes to the source of riches that are unsurpassing in the universe; he seeks the riches that come out of the glory of God. There is no higher ground, and there is no beyond this. There is no more than this when it comes to what you can ask God for, and nothing greater than what He could possible give you.

And if it's in Jesus and His saving work that the riches of God's glory is supremely displayed, and given to us, then it's no surprise that Paul prays in vv.16-17 that *we might be strengthened with power through his Spirit in our inner being, through Christ dwelling in our hearts through faith*.

Asking for Jesus to Dwell in Our Hearts through Faith

Paul prays that the one in whom is the riches of God's glory might come and dwell in our hearts through faith. Paul prays nothing less than the riches of God's glory coming to live in your heart. He prays that Jesus, who is the riches of God's glory, comes and dwells in our hearts through faith, and to invade our hearts with Jesus and His redeeming work.

Paul is asking, in his prayer, that nothing less than Jesus takes up residence in our hearts so that He might make our hearts His home, and so that Jesus Himself might fill our hearts through faith. I want you to notice the empowering work of the Holy Spirit, and the direction of the work of the Spirit, in empowering us. The Holy Spirit strengthens us with power as He brings Jesus to dwell in our hearts through faith.

That is the direction of the Spirit's indwelling work in the life of the believer; that is the direction of the Spirit's strengthening work (John 15-17). The Holy Spirit is there to always point us to Jesus, to lead us to Jesus, to magnify Jesus and His redeeming love in our lives, and to help us grasp Jesus' words and saving work. Paul first prays here that the Holy Spirit might bring Jesus to dwell in our hearts **because whatever finds itself at home in your heart gives power to your life**, and whatever fills your heart gives direction and shape to your life, and affects how you respond to things, what you pursue, and how you live. **Everything in our lives is a reflection of what dwells in our hearts.**

This is because the heart is the very centre of your being; your heart is the seat of your affections, thoughts, and desires. Win the heart and you will win the man. Win the affections of the heart and you will win the affections of the man. Win the thoughts of the heart and you will win the thoughts of the man.

There is power in our affections; we do what we most love to do in life. The object of my love, and the depth of my love for that which I love, gives power to my action to do it. The love that motivates us is the power that drives us. **The affections of our hearts are connected with power, incredible power.** We do what we want to do because what we most desire is what we most pursue, what we most love is what we most relentlessly pursue in life, what we most love is what we live for with passion in life, what we most think about is what we plan our lives around, and what we most desire is what we sacrifice to get.

The same holds true for us as believers; the power for spiritual change and growth is found in the affections of the heart. The love that motivates us is the power that drives us. The greater the affections of my heart then the greater my affections for Jesus will be, and the greater the power to serve and live for Him will be.

Until the riches of God's glory in Jesus become the supreme object of your hearts affection, thoughts, and desires, you will not know and experience the riches of God's infinite grace in your life. Some of you do not know and experience that even now because He is not the supreme object of your hearts affection, and He is not the supreme treasure in your heart. Until that happens, you will not have power to live the Christian life because other things are filling your heart and empowering it to move away from what is the true riches in Jesus. So many of us are selling ourselves short in the Christian life by letting other things dwell in our hearts instead of having Jesus take His place as the supreme treasure in our lives.

When Jesus and His redeeming love reigns supreme as a treasure in your heart, and when He dwells and fills your heart, you will discover that the other things are slowly driven out. The more He takes up residence and fills the rooms in your heart, the more you will part with the junk that so occupies your heart.

I know that most of you have not seen or understood the Christian life in this way. You are saved not to a life of self-denial so that you lose out in life, but to a life of self-denial so that you might gain what is unsurpassing riches in Jesus. You are called to put aside lesser treasures in life so that you might have greater treasures in Jesus. When someone becomes a Christian, God doesn't just free them from their sin, the world, their flesh, and the devil. The problem is that the affections of our heart are set on things of lesser glory, and we give greatness, worth, value, and praise to everything in life but God himself. We love everything but God Himself.

The gospel saves you but doesn't remove the affections of your heart; it replaces what you once loved, praised, and gave glory to with the one thing in the universe that is of supreme value, worth, and greatness, and with the riches of His glory in Jesus and His saving work. He replaces the finite, worthless, and enslaving treasures in our lives with an infinite and supremely incomparable treasure in our lives, which are the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus.

So as Jesus and His redeeming love fills your heart, the oxygen for sin is driven out, and the oxygen for idolatry is extinguished because when the heart is filled with Christ, there is no room for anything else; nothing else can thrive there! So the more He is a treasure who rules the affections of my heart, the more all things appear empty and worthless.

Power over sin, addiction, compulsions, greed, and habitual sin don't come from saying stop or 'be more accountable', or by being more disciplined, **but** it comes from having the affections of your heart directed to a greater treasure, and from having the affections of your heart set on something more valuable, **because people do what they do because they love what they do; so until they are given something greater to love, they will not stop what they are doing.** In the gospel you have been given the unsurpassing riches of God's glory in Christ and His saving work. Every treasure is found in Him whom you so seek in life (Psalm 16:9).

And so what Paul does here, in his prayer, is ask that the affections of our hearts be set more and more on Jesus; that His redeeming love might be more and more of a treasure to us in life. Until that happens, we will not have the power to live the Christian life, serve God, pursue holiness, experience joy, know security, stand firm, love others, and overcome temptation.

Paul prays for nothing less than God's infinite riches in Jesus coming to dwell in our hearts, and that Jesus and His saving work might reign supreme over all things as the object of our affections, thoughts, and desires in life. You cannot pray any higher, ask for anything greater, know anything richer, or have anything better than Jesus, who is the riches unsearchable in ch.3:8; He is the riches that are never ending and ever expanding.

Paul is basically saying that as this happens, you will be rooted and grounded in His love. If the affections of your heart are set on Jesus and His saving work, and if Jesus and His redeeming work is that which fills your heart, you will be rooted and grounded in His love **because that will be what you will begin building your life on.** That's how we live and what we do in life all the time. Whatever is the supreme object of our affections, and what we hold to be precious in our hearts, actually become the foundation that we build our lives on. It becomes the foundation that we put our hopes in, and the foundation that we think will bring us the greatest joy in life, either from our work, studies, money, or our children.

This is why Paul begins by praying that Christ and His redeeming work might hold the supreme place in our hearts because when that happens the gospel will be our supreme foundation in life, the foundation we put our hopes in, the foundation that brings us joy, the foundation that gives us security, and the foundation that we will build on in life. So notice what Paul says in v.17: *so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love ... (so that you might be rooted and grounded in His love)*

Note: the key to what you will build on in life, and the key to the foundation in your life, is your heart. **Practice the discipline of planned neglect.** Pursue the better, more precious, more worthy, and greater things in life. There are lots of things we do in life that are good things, but they don't fuel our affection for Jesus and His redeeming work; they steal our joy in Him, are a substitute for Him in our lives, distract us, and tire us. You should **plan to neglect what is not helping you in your pursuit to make Jesus the supreme object of your affections!** Plan to do away, lessen, or put aside things and activities which, although are good and enjoyable, don't foster your heart's affection for Jesus; they steal your affection for Jesus and are a substitute for Christ as a treasure in your life. E.g. hours spent on the internet, hours on your PS3 or Xbox, hours watching TV, endless hours spent on your hobbies, or hours building your life around your kids. They are all good, enjoyable, and fun things, but in your pursuit of what is good, do not sell yourself short because you are missing the greater treasure!

But Paul's prayer doesn't stop there, does it? Notice what Paul goes on to pray:

To Comprehend the Magnitude of the Love of Christ

Paul prays that we might *18 have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge.*

Paul doesn't just pray that you and I might grow deeper in our affections for Jesus and His redeeming work as a treasure in our lives, but he prays that we might also grow to treasure Him and His redeeming work more and more in our lives. He prays that you and I might comprehend and grasp the vastness of the gospel and the riches of Jesus and His redeeming work. He prays that as Jesus continues to dwell in you, and as your roots grow deeper in Him, that you might be empowered to grasp with all of God's people (saints) the love of Christ in its unsearchable riches (3:8), in its manifold wisdom (3:10), in its rich mercy (2:4), and in its immeasurable grace (2:7).

It's as vast as you can possibly describe it: the breadth, length, height, and depth of the love of Christ. You can never exhaust the love of Christ. It is broad enough to save men and women from every nation under heaven. It is long enough, stretching before creation, and going on into eternity. It is deep enough to reach the most lost sinner who is dead in their sins. It is high enough to take us, and lift us up, to sit with Jesus as trophies of His grace, enjoying His kindness that expands into eternity.

Romans 8:37-39 puts it in a similar fashion. It echoes what we've already read in Ephesians ch.3:8. The gospel that Paul preaches is called and described as the '**unsearchable riches in Christ**'. God's love is so vast that you cannot discover or reach the end of it. It is never ending, ever expanding, and ever deepening (Ephesians 2:7).

Paul also says that the love of Christ **surpasses knowledge** (v.19). It is not that it cannot be known but that our knowledge and experience of the love of Jesus is limited. It is like a map book; just because the road ends on a certain page, it doesn't mean there's no road beyond that. Paul is telling us here that the road goes on and on with the love of Christ; there's more to know personally, and experience personally, of His redeeming love, and you and I will never reach the end, even when going into eternity.

It's so important for us to grasp this because too many of us have a stale view of the gospel. We think that Jesus loves us and died for us and that's it. We treat the gospel like a finite gift, a toy that we get and then put on the shelf once we've finished playing with it, or a DVD that we enjoy once or maybe twice a year that then sits on the DVD shelf the rest of the time. Because of this we have a stale view of the Christian life and of heaven. **If God is infinitely glorious and infinitely great, then His love must also be infinite.** God's love must be infinite in that it goes on forever, and must be ever increasing in its experience and measure. **God's love in the gospel must be infinitely expanding and never ending for it to be supremely glorious, which is why it gives us unsearchable riches, incomparable grace, immeasurable love, inexhaustible mercy, and surpassing knowledge.**

Jesus and His redeeming work is not a finite or static gift. Every so often you go to a Christmas service and are told that Jesus and His work is the ultimate Christmas present, but the problem with comparing the gospel to a present is that presents grow old and you get bored with them. Think of what you got for Christmas 10 years ago, do you remember what it was? Do you know where it is now? When things are new, they bring us delight and joy and they satisfy us. That's what you experience when you receive a gift or a present. E.g. the joy and delight from a child's teddy bear, a new car, a new phone, or a new game. But in our experience of life gifts grow old, decay, and become outdated; as the luster and the newness fades, so too does our joy and delight in them and we move on.

We treat the gospel just like that. We are under the impression that the gift ends here at the cross but Paul says **no**. You will never exhaust the cross of Jesus, which is why he prays that you and I might comprehend and grasp the ever expanding love of Jesus that flows from the cross, because the more it overwhelms you, the more you are gripped by it, the more you understand it, and the more it fills your horizon, then the more Christ will dwell in your heart as your supreme treasure, the more He will be your foundation, and the more you will know the ever expanding love of Jesus in your life. **Paul is praying that the gospel will always be new in our lives; he wants us to understand that the gospel will always be new going into eternity.**

That's what the Psalmist meant when he said that the steadfast love of the Lord goes on forever, up to the heavens, across generations, is unceasing, expanding, abounding, and lasting (Psalm 36:5; 52:1; 57:10; 90:14; 100:5). We read in Lamentations 3:22-23 that *the steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; 23 they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*

How can something be new tomorrow? How can the steadfast love of the Lord be new tomorrow? It was new yesterday, and tomorrow it will be new again, but that's only possible if my experience of that love tomorrow is greater than it was yesterday. If yesterday my experience of the love of God was new, and tomorrow it is also new, then it cannot be the same as yesterday or else it wouldn't be new – **it must be greater!** Such is the steadfast love of God. It is ever widening and ever expanding because God is infinitely glorious, and His infinite love demands an infinite experience of it.

As you do this, Paul says you will (v.19) be filled with the fullness of God, and be brought to the complete satisfaction, delight, and fullness in the one in whom is unsurpassing riches, and riches forevermore, to His glory, praise, and our joy. You will be filled and satisfied with God in His infinite greatness and worth, to His praise and your joy.

As I say this, let me also clarify by saying what Paul is not saying. He is not saying that we are to seek Jesus plus something else; too many Christians think that. The experience that Paul wants you to know is Christ and His redeeming love; he wants you to experience the gospel more and more, the fullness, power, joy, and growth of it. Everything is found in the redeeming love of Jesus; He is sufficient. Paul says we are to comprehend and grasp the ever expanding and never ending love of Jesus in His redeeming work.

The cross is sufficient; it is the place where God's glory is supremely displayed. What we are to do is grow deeper in Him and His love, and be filled with Him and His saving work. As you do that, you will begin to know and experience the ever expanding treasure that Jesus is for you, **as the one who was crushed for your sin so that you might be forgiven, as the one who clothed you with His righteousness so that you might stand as a son in God's presence and not be obliterated, and as the one who brought you into the presence of God in whom is fullness of ever expanding joy.**

The Key to the Fullness to God's Glory and our Joy

This is the key to everything in life. The key to your every desire in life is met and satisfied in Jesus and His redeeming love because you are being brought to infinite glory in Him who is riches unsearchable.

In the gospel, Christ and His redeeming love, is the key to joy, maturity, finding assurance, knowing power to change, overcoming sin, comfort in suffering, standing firm in adversity, pursuing holiness, peace that is unbound by circumstances, hope that is sure, unending confidence, wealth that never ends, and love expanding. **The key is to have the love of Christ not only save you, but fill you as you gaze deep and long, and have the redeeming work of Jesus saturate your life!**

2 Corinthians 4:6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ;

2 Corinthians 3:18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.

We are called to behold, see, look, and fill our vision with Christ and His redeeming work, and to make Jesus our supreme treasure and vision in life. For it is as you behold, see, and grasp the love of Christ at the cross that you are being transformed and brought into His glory, which is the place where you will find riches forevermore. (Psalm 16:11).

So the more you are filled with Jesus, then the more you are grounded in His love, the more you are growing to grasp His ever expanding love, and the more you are being filled with the glory of God Himself in Christ, in becoming like Him who is our treasure forever more, and being brought to the fullness in God, to His praise and our joy forevermore.

The love of Jesus, and the cross of Jesus, is the key to everything in the Christian life and every spiritual blessing: forgiveness, perseverance, confidence, boldness, and joy. My joy in life is proportional to the measure by which Jesus and His love is supreme in my life. I.e. my being filled with the love of Christ is proportional to the measure by which I grasp His ever expanding love for me at the cross, my strength to persevere is proportional to the measure by

which I grasp the redeeming work of Jesus, and my obedience and hate of sin and idolatry in life is proportional to the measure by which the love of Christ is my treasure in life

Application

1) Let your prayers be shaped by this prayer that Paul prays in Ephesians. We pray so often that God might deliver us from our sins and apathy, give us assurance and perseverance, and help us with difficulties in life, studies, and work. They are all good things to pray for but don't just pray that God might help you, pray that He might fill you with Jesus, that the love of Christ might consume your heart, that your eyes might be set on Jesus alone, and that you might grasp Jesus and His redeeming love more and more in your life. Pray it for yourself, for us as a church, and for people in your community group. For leaders this is a prayer for your people; there is no greater prayer you can pray for your people that brings greater glory to God and joy to your people.

2) Let your life and ministry be shaped by Paul's prayer.

Community groups should all be about reminding each other of Jesus and redeeming His love for us. We meet to magnify the cross, we meet to study and be won over by the cross, we share our lives around that which we love as our supreme treasure in life - Jesus and His redeeming work - and we meet to deepen our love for Jesus, to encourage each other to make Him a treasure in our lives, for His glory and our lasting joy.

When you're serving, whatever ministry you're involved in, from music, welcoming, Sunday school, to meeting one on one, and training, remember that we have one supreme goal, which is deepening our love, and the love of others, for the gospel, to God's glory and our shared joy.

My goal in preaching is to hold out Jesus and His redeeming work. For parents, this is the most important prayer you can be praying for your children. The goal of Christian parenting that most glorifies God, and brings your children joy, is helping them make Jesus and His saving work for them their supreme treasure in life. And for you personally, remember that the disciplines of grace are there and designed to fill our hearts with a greater love for Jesus and His redeeming work. Read the Bible to grow your love for Jesus because the Bible is God's Word pointing us, and making us wise, for salvation through faith in Jesus, and helping us behold and see Jesus more and more.

3) Spend time studying the gospel and the redeeming work of Jesus, investing in and grasping the love of Christ.

The secret of holiness, to being filled with God, is a heart occupation with Christ. As we gaze upon Him we become like Him. Do you want to become like Christ? Let the loveliness of the risen Lord so fill your vision of your soul that all else is shut out, then the things of the flesh will shrivel up and disappear, and the things of the Spirit will become supreme in your life. This is the only way whereby we may be delivered from the power of the flesh and the principles of the world.

Do I see in the work of Jesus the guilt of my sins paid for, my judgment dealt with, Jesus crushed in my place, and my substitute on whom the winepress of the fury of God is released? Do I see the blood of Jesus covering and washing away my sin? Do I see His

unfailing and unending love? There is a fountain filled with blood overflowing from Immanuel's veins; and sinners washed beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

Do I see in the love of Jesus my total and complete righteousness before God? By His perfect obedience I stand; clothed in His righteousness I stand. What I cannot do, He does always, where I fail, He succeeds always, where I am unfaithful, he is forever faithful, where I am disobedient, he is forever obedient, and where I struggle to love, He loves perfectly. Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling, naked come to Him to be clothed in His righteousness alone.