

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE

SERMON OUTLINE

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JANUARY 1, 2017

**“Our Wonderful Provider –
Our Lord Who Is Able”**

Ephesians 3:13-21

Life has its trying times. Disappointments in our personal lives, discouragement over the financial recession and despair over world crises stifle the flame of expectation about the future. Spurgeon was right, **“We have great needs, but we have a great Christ for our needs!”**

What do you want from the Savior this morning? Vision, courage, strength, power not only to cope, but to triumph in these tough times? Here is the really good news: tough times don't last; tough people do. And Christ is here to toughen us up with the truth about how He can turn our struggles into stepping stones.

My message this morning is not one more motivational talk about what you need to DO in these tough times, but rather about what is offered to you to survive in them. Then, instead of crying, **“Lord, get me out of this!” we can pray, “Lord, what do You want me to get out of this?” Our motto will be, “Things don't work out—God works out things!” because of our **WONDERFUL PROVIDER.****

Notice what he says in V-13 when he says to these believers in times of difficulty **“...do not lose heart...”** Then he tells them that he is praying for them in Vs. 14-19. That word **“lose heart” in V-13** means; **“to be dispirited, downcast, to grow weary, lack courage, faint, or lose nerve and vitality.”**

What do we learn from this passage?

I. The Secret of Him Who Is Able Vs.14-15

- A. It is Related to Our Access to the Father V-14
- B. It is Related to Our Acceptance to the Father v-15

II. The Sources of Him Who Is Able Vs.16-19

- A. The SOURCE is – through the INVINCIBLE Spirit of God V-16
- B. The SOURCE is – through the INDWELLING Son of God V-17a
- C. The Source is- The INEXPRESSIBLE Salvation of God Vs.17b-19

Now notice as he he makes an attempt as he tells us about:

- 1. God's Love talks about that Salvation that in reality is **INDESCRIBABLE**, but Experienced in Salvation V-17b
- 2. God's Love Examined in our Salvation V-18
- 3. God's Love EXHIBITED in V-19

Thus, far we have looked at the SECRET and the SOURCES of Him who is ABLE. Now lastly . . .

III. The SCOPE of Him Who Is Able Vs.20-21

- A. A Power that is INEXHAUSTIBLE V-20
 - 1. He Is Limitless in His ABILITY – V-20
 - 2. He is Limitless in His AVAILABILITY V-20b
- B. A Purpose that is INESCAPABLE -v-21
 - 1. Our lives are to glorify God *personally*
 - 2. Our lives are also to glorify God *publicly*
 - 3. Our lives are to glorify God *perpetually*