

# Ephesians 3:11-13

## Ephesians 3:11 –“This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord,”

2596 [e]	4286 [e]	3588 [e]	165 [e]	3739 [e]	4160 [e]	1722 [e]	3588 [e]	5547 [e]	2424 [e]	3588 [e]	2962 [e]		
kata	prothesin	tōn	aiōnōn	hēn	epoiēsen	en	tō	Christō	Iēsou	tō	Kyriō		
11	κατὰ	πρόθεσιν	τῶν	αἰώνων	, ἣν	ἐποίησεν	ἐν	τῷ	Χριστῷ	Ἰησοῦ	τῷ	Κυρίῳ	
	according to	[the] purpose	of the	ages	, which	He accomplished	in	-	Christ	Jesus	the	Lord	
	Prep	N-AFS	Art-GMP	N-GMP		RelPro-AFS	V-AIA-3S	Prep	Art-DMS	N-DMS	N-DMS	Art-DMS	N-DMS

1473 [e]  
hēmōn  
ἡμῶν ,  
of us  
PPro-G1P

1. From the beginning, even BEFORE the beginning, the purpose of history was Jesus Christ.
2. God’s purpose was “realized” – *epoiēsen* – in Christ Jesus, who is our Lord.
  - a. “realized” – *epoiēsen* – means “make, manufacture, construct, cause”
  - b. *Epoiēsen* is translated as:
    - i. NIV – “accomplished”
    - ii. RSV – “realized
    - iii. NEB – “achieved”
    - iv. AV – “which he purposed”
3. The main point here is that all that God planned and is accomplishing is achieved, literally, “in Christ, who is Jesus, our Lord.”
  - a. The eternal – Lord.
  - b. The messiah – Christ.
  - c. The humanity – Jesus.

## Ephesians 3:12 –“in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.”

1722 [e]	3739 [e]	2192 [e]	3588 [e]	3954 [e]	2532 [e]	4318 [e]	1722 [e]	4006 [e]	1223 [e]	3588 [e]	
en	hō	echomen	tēn	parrēsian	kai	prosagōgēn	en	pepoithēsei	dia	tēs	
12	ἐν	ᾧ	ἔχομεν	τὴν	παρρησίαν	καὶ	προσαγωγὴν	ἐν	πεποιθήσει	, διὰ	τῆς
	in	whom	we have	-	boldness	and	access	in	confidence	by	the
	Prep	RelPro-DMS	V-PIA-1P	Art-AFS	N-AFS	Conj	N-AFS	Prep	N-DFS	Prep	Art-GFS

4102 [e]      846 [e]  
pisteōs      autou  
πίστεως      αὐτοῦ .  
faith      from Him  
N-GFS      PPro-GM3S

1. Now, what does this mean to us today? From this lofty, cosmic explanation what is the mere mortal Christian to do with this information?
  - a. We have “boldness” – *parrēsian* – means “freedom of speech, openness to speak one’s thoughts, confidence”. It is the absence of fear and shame. *Parrēsian* used in the Greek

political world describes the freedom of speech citizens of the democratic city-states enjoyed. The citizens had the right to speak with candor and without fear

- i. Hebrews 4:16
- ii. Hebrew 10:19 –
- iii. Many times in the NT, but also 4 times in 1 John 2:28; 3:21; 4:17; 5:14
- b. We have “access” – *prosagogen* – meaning “approach, access, admission”. It is used 3x in the NT and always refers to having direct access to God to have an audience with him.
  - i. Romans 5:2
  - ii. Ephesians 2:18
  - iii. Ephesians 3:12 – (here)
- c. We have “confidence” – *pepoithesei* – “confidence, trust, reliance”
- 2. All this is “by the faith”, which means our understanding based on the Truth we know. “Faith” does not mean wishful thinking, positive attitude, abandoning logic or believing the impossible. It means because of the information we know we can understand the information that is yet unseen.

### Ephesians 3:13 -“So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.”

1352 [e]	154 [e]	3361 [e]	1573 [e]	1722 [e]	3588 [e]	2347 [e]	1473 [e]	5228 [e]	4771 [e]	3748 [e]	1510 [e]	1391 [e]
Dio	aitoumai	mē	enkakein	en	tais	thlipsesin	mou	hyper	hymōn	hētis	estin	doxa
13 Διὸ	αἰτοῦμαι	μὴ	ἐνκακεῖν	ἐν	ταῖς	θλίψεσίν	μου	ὑπὲρ	ὑμῶν	, ἧτις	ἐστὶν	δόξα
Therefore	I implore [you]	not	to lose heart	at	the	tribulations	of me	for	you	which	is	glory
Conj	V-PIM-1S	Adv	V-PNA	Prep	Art-DFP	N-DFP	PPro-G1S	Prep	PPro-G2P	RelPro-NFS	V-PIA-3S	N-NFS

4771 [e]  
 hymōn  
 ὑμῶν .  
 of you  
 PPro-G2P

1. Paul is in prison and some may wonder how he can be living victoriously in Christ while chained by men. The victory of God is in Christ, not Paul. It is in knowing the Truth, not being physically free.
2. Paul did have opponents in the church who used his imprisonment to build their ministries on his as is seen in Philippians 1:15-18
3. The Ephesians are to be encouraged because God’s purpose is moving forward even in this situation
4. Also, even though Paul is in chains he is still communicating with the churches by letter and messengers. All is well.
5. Paul’s imprisonment will end up placing him in front of the Roman emperor and the imperial court where Paul will fulfill a portion of his ministry to the Gentiles. See Eph. 6:19; Philippians 4:21 and 1:13