



*Who Do You Think You Are?*



**“Paul’s Prayer”**  
**Ephesians 1:15-23**

# The Importance of Prayer:

- Because the Word of God, Salvation and New Life in Christ is a Work of God; we Pray to Him, Beseech Him, Petition Him.
- Paul believed in the power of Prayer
  - He Prayed unceasingly (v.16, 3:14, “Bow my knees”; Col.1:9)
  - He asked for prayer (Eph.6:19; Rom.15:30)
  - He called us to give thanks and pray without ceasing (1Thes.5:16-18)
- We should be praying in every way
  - Alone with God, in secret “our closet”(Mtt.6:6)
  - In public for others to see (Mtt. 5:14-16; Jn.11:41-42)
  - In Gatherings large and small (“Wherever two or more”, Mtt.18:20)

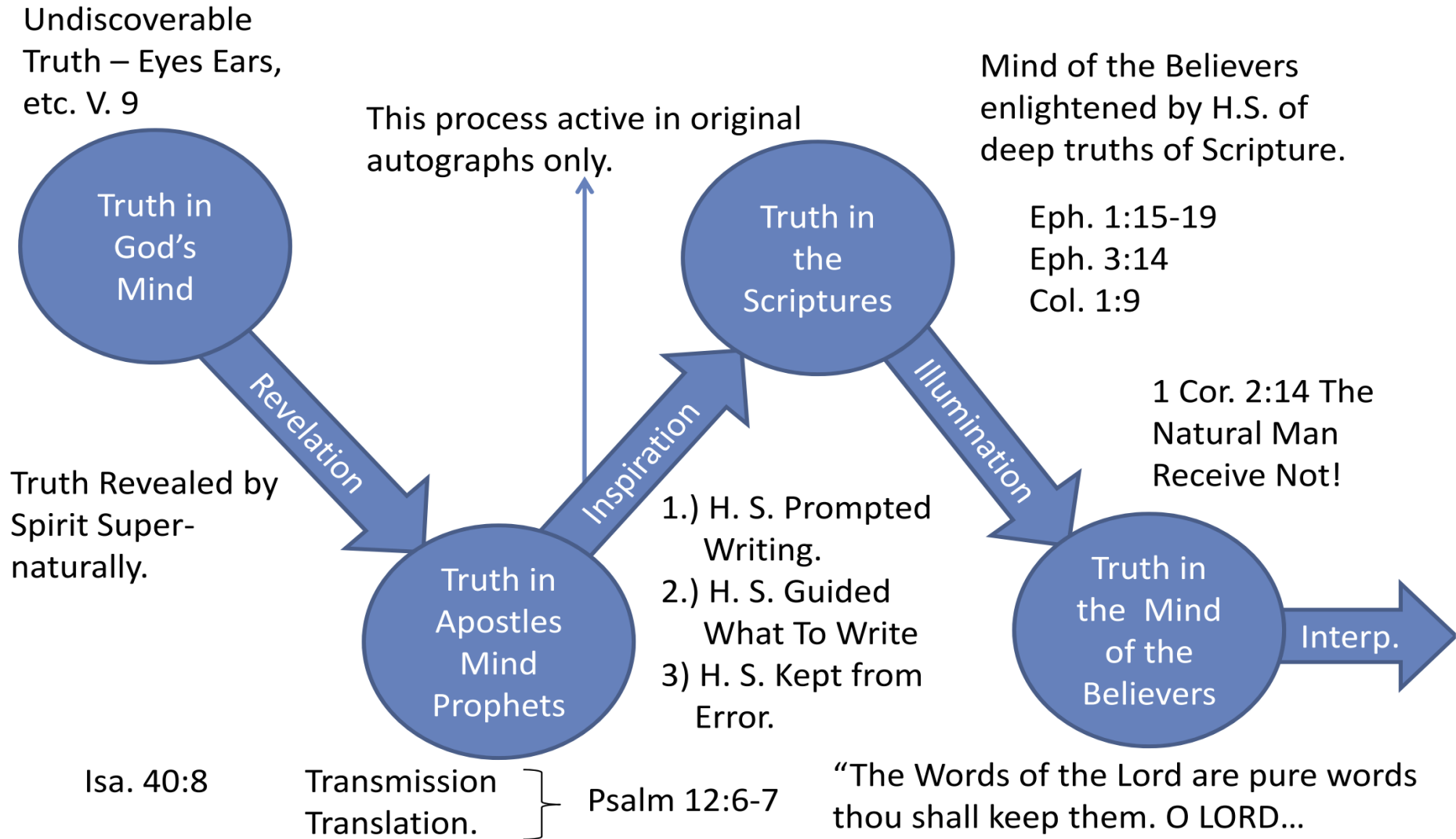
# “For this Reason” (v.15)      What Reason?

- Because of Paul has now heard of their Faith
  - The word from others about their trust in Christ (v.15)
  - The evidence of their faith, “love for One-another (v.15; Jn.13:35; 1Jn.4:7f)
- Because of all of the Positional, Spiritual realities that are true of all those in Christ (Eph.1:3-14)
  - He prays for their comprehension and understanding (1:17-18)

# Paul's Prayer

- To “God the Father”, of the Lord Jesus (1:17)
  - Our Father (Mtt.6:9)
- For “Wisdom”, “Revelation”, “true” knowledge”, “Enlightenment” (1:17-18)
  - Convicting work on those who do not yet know Christ (Jn.16:13-15)
  - Divine Illumination and Wisdom . . . For Understanding and Application (Holy Spirit work, 1Cor.2:10, 14)
  - Paul prays that God would enable them “Us” to see and understand all that is true of us in Christ.

# Three Divine Processes 1 Cor. 2:9-16



# Content of Paul's Prayer

- That we would “know” the Hope of His calling (1:18)
- That we know the Riches of our Inheritance (1:18)
- That we know the surpassing greatness of His Power for us (1:19)
  - Based on His Might (v.19)
  - Demonstrated when He Raised Jesus from the Grave (v.20)