**August 13, 2017 “In Order That” Ephesians 3:14-21**

As we have discussed in the past, the Book of Ephesians is divided into two parts. The first three chapters really deal with all that God has done for you and me as believers. Then there is a transition, which I call the “trigger,” which is found in verses 14-21 of chapter three. This “trigger” is designed to release all the power that is found in the first three chapters into the life of the believer so that they can live life in the manner for which God designed them. That manner is found in the next three chapters which are 4-6.

As I have described previously to you who have been travelling along with us as we have examined these first three chapters; verses 14-21 are what is called a “hina” clause. What that means is that this passage is a series of steps. You will find there are 5 steps which are listed here.

They are:

* Strengthened in the inner man
  + Through the Word of God
  + Ephesians 5:25-26
* “in order that” Christ may dwell in your hearts
  + Katoikeesi
  + “may be comfortable in your hearts”
  + Not always cleaning up after you
* “in order that” you may be rooted and grounded in love
* “in order that” you may be filled up to all the fullness of God
* “in order that” His abundant power may work within and through us

This “hina” clause is the connecting link from all that God has done for us as believers so that we can live the life God has intended for us to live. I hope that we all realize that this Book which we are reading from and are holding in our hands is the greatest gift that God has given unto mankind. I might want to say to all of us, that the greatest problem in all of Christianity is that we who name the Name of Christ as the central theme of our lives, oftentimes to do not live lives that match the instructions found in God’s Word.

1. “in order that”
   1. You being rooted and grounded in love
      1. Romans 5:5
      2. Galatians 5:19-21
         1. This what this world has to offer
         2. [ADHD](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=6)
         3. [Addiction](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=4)
         4. [Alcohol Abuse](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=248)
         5. [Anger Management](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=166)
         6. [Antisocial Personality](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=194)
         7. [Anxiety](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=3)
         8. [Behavioral Issues](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=195)
         9. [Bipolar Disorder](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=168)
         10. [Borderline Personality](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=196)
         11. [Chronic Impulsivity](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=197)
         12. [Chronic Relapse](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=250)
         13. [Codependency](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=503)
         14. [Coping Skills](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=249)
         15. [Depression](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=2)
         16. [Developmental Disorders](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=252)
         17. [Divorce](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=26)
         18. [Domestic Abuse](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=8)
         19. [Domestic Violence](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=181)
         20. [Drug Abuse](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=253)
         21. [Dual Diagnosis](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=263)
         22. [Eating Disorders](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=9)
         23. [Emotional Disturbance](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=198)
         24. [Gambling](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=254)
         25. [Hoarding](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=646)
         26. [Intellectual Disability](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=264)
         27. [Internet Addiction](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=202)
         28. [Narcissistic Personality](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=203)
         29. [Obsessive-Compulsive (OCD)](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=15)
         30. [Oppositional Defiance](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=204)
         31. [Self-Harming](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=283)
         32. [Sex Therapy](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=17)
         33. [Substance Abuse](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=182)
         34. [Suicidal Ideation](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=205)
         35. [Transgender](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=187)
         36. [Trauma and PTSD](https://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_results.php?sid=1502624341.089_25385&city=Beverly+Hills&state=CA&spec=19)
   2. Compare
      1. Galatians 5:22-23
         1. Which do you prefer?
      2. Important to note
         1. Nowhere in the Bible is love ever mentioned as a feeling
         2. It is always described as an act of the will
            1. I Corinthians 13
            2. I Samuel 18:1-4
            3. II Samuel 9
         3. Absence of love is the presence of the sin of selfishness
            1. Problems in marriage

Not because people are incompatible

Question for all of us

You, minus love equals what?

You, minus self-sacrifice equals what?

Ephesians 5:2

* 1. Not only are we rooted and grounded in love
  2. We are able to comprehend God’s love
     1. Question… why then Ephesians 3:19… “which surpasses knowledge?”
  3. Note it is not “love for Christ”
  4. But rather the “love **of** Christ”
     1. Some say this fourfold description is found in the four points of the cross
  5. Notice
     1. Breadth
        1. Ephesians 2:11-15
        2. No one is exempt from the love of Christ
     2. Length
        1. Ephesians 1:3-4… before the foundation of the earth
        2. Ephesians 2:7… in the ages to come He might show the riches of His grace
     3. Height
        1. Ephesians 1:3… in the heavenly places
        2. Ephesians 2:6… in the heavenly places
     4. Depth
        1. Ephesians 2:1-3… when you were dead in sin and trespasses
        2. When we walked in disobedience

This is the kind of love to build your life on

I am so reminded of the Book of Romans when I studied this passage

* Chapter 1-3… all have sinned
* Chapter 4-5… what God has done through the light of justification
* Chapter 6… shall we continue in sin?
* Chapter 7… I will live this Christian life through my own effort
* Chapter 8… there is now therefore no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus