

The Spiritual/Intellectual Singularity
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From Ephesians 1 THE SPIRITUAL/INTELLECTUAL SINGULARITY, PART 1

The apostle's language in Ephesians is without compromise. The language is far from ambiguous: Jesus. His life. His word. His gospel. All bespeak a singularity, something one of a kind, a category unto itself. There is no thing and no one else like it anywhere or at any time.

Jesus is a pure spiritual /intellectual singularity. Neither the Lord nor the Word of the Lord are subject to any genre classification. Academics have pronounced the Scripture to be nothing but history; and that amounts to a secular reading of the Bible. For those who know, this is seventeenth-century philosopher Spinoza's dream come true!

The analog of such a singularity of Jesus is supposed to be the church, reflecting as well the non-secular reading of the Bible.

This kind of singularity is not shaped, controlled, nor manipulated by the social, the cultural, nor by time. What we might call "the Box of Time" is not the context of this singularity. Furthermore, the singularity is not relative to human natural intelligence. In fact, it has transcended that intelligence. It is manifested in time; but it is not of time.

The singularity has no material grounding. The singularity communicates to us on its terms alone! Scripture is the voice of the singularity: "He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him" (v. 9) "with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth" (v. 10).

From Ephesians 1. THE SPIRITUAL/INTELLECTUAL SINGULARITY, PART 2

The singularity has the *power of summation*: "the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth" (v. 10). Only God can do that. A believer can, should, must, give his or her situations and circumstances over to the power of summation.

This power at work in the world:

- In the time of Moses, the Desert of Sinai was overtaken by the power of summation. Suddenly an uninhabitable place became habitable (Exodus 15-17).
- Biblical episodes teach that men of faith turned their mortal lives over to the power of summation and escaped unscathed (Daniel 3, 6; Psalm 119).

- The power of summation opened prison doors (Acts 16:22-40);
- raised up the sick (Acts 5: 15, 16); and
- was expected to shape the future (Acts 4:23-31).
- Terrible, irreversible conditions were in fact reversed (John 12, 20).

The power of summation is the administration of our times (Ephesians 1:9, 10). Paul wants the church to believe this. Christ as administrator of the times means that nothing else and no one else is allowed to administrate.

Generalization: We are under spiritual management. Neither men, nature, nor circumstances are the rightful administrators of our times, our lives, our history. World magnitudes and world systems do not possess this power. The power of summation grants wisdom, insight and knowledge to those who trust in Him (Ephesians 1:17, 18).

Our expectations should rise because of "the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might" (Ephesians 1:19). All our troubles, losses, pain and blessings are caught up in this administered power of summation!