

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, September 17, 2017

“The Supremacy of Christ ~Paul’s Prayer”

Colossians 1:9-14

### UNCEASING PRAYER

- An attitude of \_\_\_\_\_.
- An attitude of \_\_\_\_\_.

How do your prayers mirror your inner life?

### PAUL’S PRAYER FOR THE COLOSSIANS

“And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding...” (Colossians 1:9)

Filled = *pleroo* =

- **Filled with the \_\_\_\_\_ of God’s \_\_\_\_\_.**

The knowledge that Paul wants them to have is a deep, \_\_\_\_\_, and thorough knowledge. This kind of knowledge can only come from God through special \_\_\_\_\_ in accordance with God’s \_\_\_\_\_ and under the guidance of the \_\_\_\_\_. This isn’t head knowledge or mere information—but a \_\_\_\_\_ knowledge. It’s a knowledge that will \_\_\_\_\_ one’s life.

“It is not good for a person to be without knowledge.” (Proverbs 19:2)

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.” (Hosea 4:6)

We need knowledge to keep us from \_\_\_\_\_ from God’s path or being tricked by \_\_\_\_\_ teaching.

“...so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.” (Ephesians 4:13-14)

### OBTAINING KNOWLEDGE

- **We must \_\_\_\_\_ it.**

“Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord.” (Hosea 6:3)

- **We must \_\_\_\_\_ on the Holy Spirit.**

“God has revealed those things to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches everything, especially the deep things of God.” (1 Corinthians 2:10)

- **We must \_\_\_\_\_ the Scriptures.**

“...adequate, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

What controls our minds will control our \_\_\_\_\_. And so, having the knowledge of God’s Word control our minds is the key to Godly \_\_\_\_\_.

- **Filled with spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.**

Wisdom = *sophia* - doesn’t refer to wisdom derived from human \_\_\_\_\_, but revealed by the \_\_\_\_\_ in accordance with God’s \_\_\_\_\_.

Spiritual wisdom is the God-enabled ability to collect concisely organized \_\_\_\_\_ from Scripture.

Understanding = *synesis* =

It is the God-given ability to \_\_\_\_\_ those principles to everyday life.

### 6 BENEFITS IN A BELIEVER’S LIFE

“...so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy...” (Colossians 1:10-11)

- **Benefit #1. A worthy \_\_\_\_\_.**

Walk = *parapateo* =

Worthy = *axios* =

Paul prays that the Colossians would live an everyday life that would bring honour and glory to God because it possessed a \_\_\_\_\_ between what they professed and how they lived.

This kind of worthy walk can only be experienced through:

### How would you describe your walk? Is it worthy of the Lord?

- **Benefit #2. A \_\_\_\_\_ life.**

The objective of our lives isn’t to please \_\_\_\_\_ or anyone else, but to please \_\_\_\_\_. This can only be done by \_\_\_\_\_ solely on Him and not the goals and desires of the \_\_\_\_\_.

**What is your focus? Who are you seeking to please with your life?**

- **Benefit #3. A \_\_\_\_\_ life.**

Fruit is the by-product of \_\_\_\_\_.

“By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove that you are my disciples.” (John 15:8)

To produce such fruit, an individual needs to have an authentic \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus; spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ as revealed by the Holy Spirit through the Scriptures; and be \_\_\_\_\_ to sharing in Christ's mission in the world.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

Abide = *meno* =

If \_\_\_\_\_ is the root—good \_\_\_\_\_ are the fruit!

**What kind of fruit are you producing in your life?**

**Benefit #4.** \_\_\_\_\_.

The more we learn about God's \_\_\_\_\_ and ways, the better we'll be able to \_\_\_\_\_ to what pleases Him, and the more \_\_\_\_\_ we'll become in our faith.

#### 4 MARKS OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH

• **A deeper love for God's** \_\_\_\_\_.

"Oh, how I love your instructions! I think about them all day long." (Psalm 119:97)

• **A more perfect** \_\_\_\_\_.

"By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments." (1 John 2:3)

• **An enlarged** \_\_\_\_\_.

"Dear brothers and sisters, we can't help but thank God for you, because your faith is flourishing and your love for one another is growing." (2 Thessalonians 1:3)

• **A greater** \_\_\_\_\_.

"I pray that your love will keep on growing because of your knowledge and insight." (Philippians 1:9)

**Can you see evidence of these 4 marks of spiritual growth in your life?**

**Benefit #5.** \_\_\_\_\_ with all \_\_\_\_\_.

Strength = *donamoumenoi* =

God wants to \_\_\_\_\_ strengthen us with all power throughout our Christian lives God wants to propel us to a stronger, more \_\_\_\_\_ faith—a faith that will stand firm in the midst of trial and temptation.

God's glorious might =

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

**Whose power are you living out of—yours or God's?**

**Benefit #6.** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

Endure = *hypomone* =

Endurance is needed to handle \_\_\_\_\_ in life; patience is needed when dealing with \_\_\_\_\_.

**How enduring are you? How patient are you? How joyful?**

#### 4 THINGS JESUS HAS DONE FOR US

"...giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." (Colossians 1:12-14)

• **Jesus has** \_\_\_\_\_ **us.**

*hikanoo* =

This is an \_\_\_\_\_ act that occurred at the point of our salvation when we invited Jesus into our lives by faith, and were made \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of all His blessings and promises.

• **Jesus** \_\_\_\_\_ **us.**

*rhyomai* =

Whoever has received God's gift of grace by faith has been \_\_\_\_\_ from the dominion of \_\_\_\_\_, sin, and ignorance.

• **Jesus has** \_\_\_\_\_ **us.**

*methistemi* =

In Christ we were lifted out of the citizenship of this sinful \_\_\_\_\_ and relocated with full citizenship into the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

• **Jesus** \_\_\_\_\_ **us.**

*apolytroisis* =

In the blood of Jesus the \_\_\_\_\_ was paid in full and we are \_\_\_\_\_.

• **Jesus has** \_\_\_\_\_ **us.**

*aphesis* =