



“Walk in a Manner Worthy of the Lord”

Colossians 2:6; Colossians 1:3-14

Introduction

- Colossians 2:6 says, “As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.” And then Colossians 1:10 says, “...walk in a manner worthy of the Lord...”
 - Are you walking with Jesus?
- Colossians 2:19 – Walking with Jesus produces growth and maturity.
- Colossians 2:23 – Walking with Jesus is valuable against fleshly indulgence.
- Galatians 5:17 – There is a war inside every believer between the flesh and the indwelling Spirit.
- Old Testament Walking with God
 - Examples: Genesis 5:22-23 – Enoch, Genesis 6:9 – Noah, Psalm 23 – “Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me...”,
- Disciples literally walked with Jesus in the Gospels.
- Two ways to attempt to walk with Jesus
 - Human Effort
 - Colossians 2:8, “...philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world.”
 - Colossians 2: 20-23, “elementary principles of the world.” “why...do you submit to regulations—‘Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch. These indeed have an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion
 - Galatians 3:2-3, “Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?
 - Walking with Jesus by human effort is of no value. Colossians 2:23, “...but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.”
 - The Power of the Gospel
 - Colossians 2:6, “As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.”
 - We receive Jesus by the grace of God in the Gospel - Ephesians 2:8-10
 - “In Him” – Ephesians 1:3-14 – chosen in Him, adopted in Him, redeemed and forgiven in Him, sealed in Him by the Holy Spirit.

“As you Received Christ Jesus the Lord” – Colossians 1:3-8

- Randy Pope’s Summary of the Gospel – We lost it all. Jesus did it all. We get it all.
- The Gospel is something that originates outside of ourselves. vs. 5 “...you have heard”, vs. 6 “which has come to you”, “since the day you heard it”, vs. 7 “you learned it from Epaphras”
- God gives us faith in Christ in the Gospel. Ephesians 2:8
- God gives us a hope laid up for us in heaven in the Gospel, an eternal inheritance. Ephesians 2:14, Colossians 1:5, 1:12 which God qualified us for.
- The Gospel produces love in the Spirit worth noting. Colossians 1:4, 8

“So Walk In Him” – Colossians 1:9-14

- The Gospel must increase in believers. Colossians 1:5b-6

“Cling to the truth that was proclaimed to you in the gospel. Don’t you remember the mighty change that occurred when the message of God’s redemptive truth made its first appearance among you? That same power is available to you in increasing measure. Do not exchange God’s powerful work for man’s beggarly elements.” -- Simon Kistemaker

- Paul prays that the believers at Colossae will be filled with Gospel (knowledge of God’s will) Colossians 1:9a
- And know how to apply the gospel to every area of life (spiritual wisdom and understanding) Colossians 1:9b
- And actually, live it out (walk in a manner worthy of the Lord) Colossians 1:10
- The Gospel lived out bears the fruit of love. Colossians 1:4, 8, 10b; Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
- Most North American Christians don’t want the gospel to increase in them because it means they have to come to terms with the fact that they contribute nothing to their growth.

“North American Christians do not obey God’s law because they do not love Him. And they do not love Him because they do not know His love for them. Christians draw their assurance of God’s acceptance on a daily basis from their own performance. Not from the performance of Jesus. Underneath all our sin is a refusal to rest in the righteousness of Christ and a drive to produce our own, to complete ourselves, to make ourselves lovely and acceptable. We must see Christ as our satisfaction. We must be completed by the love of God so that we surrender our strategies for completion.” -- Ray Cortese

- Every imperative (command) has an indicative (Gospel) driving and fueling it.
 - Being a husband: “Husbands love your wives as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up for her.” Ephesians 5:25
 - Giving generously: “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty might become rich.” 2 Corinthians 8:9
 - Carrying one another’s burdens: “Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering...but he was pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities.” Isaiah 53:4-5
 - Forgiving others: “Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.” Colossians 3:13
- The Gospel increasing in believers and increasing in the knowledge of God have a concentric relationship. Colossians 1:10b

“¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by ^[f] him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. ²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him...” Colossians 1:15-23