

Colossians 1:9-11

Colossians 1:9 – “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,”

1223 [e]	3778 [e]	2532 [e]	1473 [e]	575 [e]	3739 [e]	2250 [e]	191 [e]	3756 [e]	3973 [e]	
Dia	touto	kai	hēmeis	aph'	hēs	hēmeras	ēkousamen	ou	paoumetha	
9 Διὰ	τοῦτο	καὶ	ἡμεῖς	ἀφ'	ἧς	ἡμέρας	ἠκούσαμεν	,	οὐ	παυόμεθα
Because of	this	also	we	from	the	day	we heard	not	cease	
Prep	DPro-ANS	Conj	PPro-N1P	Prep	RelPro-GFS	N-GFS	V-AIA-1P	Adv	V-PIM-1P	

5228 [e]	4771 [e]	4336 [e]	2532 [e]	154 [e]	2443 [e]	4137 [e]	3588 [e]	1922 [e]
hyper	hymōn	proseuchomenoi	kai	aitoumenoi	hina	plērōthēte	tēn	epignōsin
ὑπὲρ	ὑμῶν	προσευχόμενοι	καὶ	αἰτούμενοι	ἵνα	πληρωθῆτε	τὴν	ἐπίγνωσιν
for	you	praying	and	asking	that	you may be filled with	the	knowledge
Prep	PPro-G2P	V-PPM/P-NMP	Conj	V-PPM-NMP	Conj	V-ASP-2P	Art-AFS	N-AFS

3588 [e]	2307 [e]	846 [e]	1722 [e]	3956 [e]	4678 [e]	2532 [e]	4907 [e]	4152 [e]
tou	thelēmatos	autou	en	pasē	sophia	kai	synesei	pneumatikē
τοῦ	θελήματος	αὐτοῦ	ἐν	πάσῃ	σοφίᾳ	καὶ	συνέσει	πνευματικῇ
of the	will	of Him	in	all	wisdom	and	understanding	spiritual
Art-GNS	N-GNS	PPro-GM3S	Prep	Adj-DFS	N-DFS	Conj	N-DFS	Adj-DFS

1. the verbs and pronouns become singular here. They have been plural in verse 1:3-8.
2. Paul continues in prayer, but moves from thanksgiving into intercession.
3. “For this reason” means intercession begins because of what Paul has just said in 1:3-8 which included thanksgiving for:
 - a. Salvation
 - b. Growth
 - c. Love, or selfless desire to share and give to others – Fruit
4. These are “this reason” he intercedes for them:
 - a. Paul is concerned about the future of the church.
 - b. There is bad teaching.
5. Note two words used for prayer:
 - a. Prayer – which refers to basic prayer, a general term
 - b. “Asking” – is specific type of prayer. It is the word *aitoumenoi*. It is a request that God intervene in their lives
6. Paul is “asking” for:
 - a. **Fill you with “knowledge”** – *epignosis*.
 - i. *Gnosis* is knowledge
 - ii. In Greek philosophy *epi* is added to the word *gnosis*. *Epi* is a preposition that alters *gnosis* by adding the prefix “on, over, before, after, above” meaning “above knowledge” or “over knowledge”

- iii. *epi-gnosis*, or *epignosis*, was used to refer to enlightenment that helped a person perceive and understand the information that was beyond the normal physical world and everyday life.
 - b. **Knowledge of his will** – When the Gnostics used the word *epignosis* they referred to insight into the world of spiritual beings. But, the *epignosis* that Paul is concerned about is “God’s will” not some strange spiritual phenomena. Instead, Paul is praying that the Colossians would know beyond normal understanding and knowledge what God’s will was for them right there that day.
 - i. Romans 3:30 is an example of *epignosis* of sin being gained through the Law of Moses. *Epignosis* refers to you gaining experiential knowledge beyond mere academic knowledge or information.
 - c. **Spirit gives epignosis** which is described with two inseparable words:
 - i. Wisdom – this is acquired knowledge
 - ii. Understanding – this is the application of the knowledge
7. Paul asks God “to fill you”
- a. the verb here is passive
 - b. the concept is you must learn this.
 - c. Since it is not humanly attainable God has to reveal it.

Colossians 1:10-11 – “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; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;”

4043 [e]	516 [e]	3588 [e]	2962 [e]	1519 [e]	3956 [e]	699 [e]	1722 [e]	3956 [e]	2041 [e]		
peripatēsai	axiōs	tou	Kyriou	eis	pasan	areskeian	en	panti	ergō		
10 περιπατήσαι	ἀξίως	τοῦ	Κυρίου	:	εἰς	πᾶσαν	ἀρεσκείαν	,	ἐν	παντὶ	ἔργῳ
to walk	worthily	of the	Lord		in	all	pleasing		in	every	work
V-ANA	Adv	Art-GMS	N-GMS	Prep	Adj-AFS	N-AFS	Prep	Adj-DNS	N-DNS		

Noun - Accusative Feminine Singular

18 [e]	2592 [e]	2532 [e]	837 [e]	3588 [e]	1922 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]
agathō	karpophorountes	kai	auxanomenoi	tē	epignōsei	tou	Theou
ἀγαθῷ	, καρποφοροῦντες	καὶ	αὐξανόμενοι	τῇ	ἐπιγνώσει	τοῦ	Θεοῦ
good	bringing forth fruit	and	growing	in the	knowledge	-	of God
Adj-DNS	V-PPA-NMP	Conj	V-PPM/P-NMP	Art-DFS	N-DFS	Art-GMS	N-GMS

1722 [e]	3956 [e]	1411 [e]	1412 [e]	2596 [e]	3588 [e]	2904 [e]	3588 [e]	1391 [e]	846 [e]
en	pasē	dynamei	dynamoumenoi	kata	to	kratos	tēs	doxēs	autou
11 ἐν	πάσῃ	δυνάμει	δυναμούμενοι	κατὰ	τὸ	κράτος	τῆς	δόξης	αὐτοῦ
with	all	power	being strengthened	according to	the	might	-	glorious	of Him
Prep	Adj-DFS	N-DFS	V-PPM/P-NMP	Prep	Art-ANS	N-ANS	Art-GFS	N-GFS	PPro-GM3S

1519 [e]	3956 [e]	5281 [e]	2532 [e]	3115 [e]	3326 [e]	5479 [e]
eis	pasan	hypomonēn	kai	makrothymian	meta	charas
εἰς	πᾶσαν	ὑπομονὴν	καὶ	μακροθυμίαν	μετὰ	χαρᾶς ,
unto	all	endurance	and	patience	with	joy
Prep	Adj-AFS	N-AFS	Conj	N-AFS	Prep	N-GFS

1. The goal of this knowledge and revelation of the wisdom of God revealed by the Holy Spirit is:
 - a. “that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way!”
 - b. And, to please the Lord we must (“well done” Matthew 25:23):
 - i. Bear fruit –
 1. John 15:1-27 – “...I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing....”(John 15:5). This includes evangelism, personal growth, spiritual gift development, etc.
 2. Daniel 12:3 – “Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.”
 - ii. Do good works –
 1. Ephesians 2:10 – “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”
 2. Titus 2:14 – “And purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.””
 - iii. Grow in the knowledge of God –
 1. God’s will above is directly related to your growth in the Christian experience.
 2. Growth and fruit are not just works and good deeds. Your own relationship with the Lord and understanding of the Lord is crucial for growth.
 - iv. Be empowered by God –
 1. tap into God’s strength, not human works.
 2. God desires this transformation.
 3. Tin man story by C.S. Lewis –
 - a. “Did you ever think, when you were a child, what fun it would be if your toys could come to life? Well suppose you could really have brought them to life. Imagine turning a tin soldier into a real little man. It would involve turning the tin into flesh. And suppose the tin soldier did not like it. He is not interested in flesh; all he sees is that the tin is being spoiled. He thinks you are killing him. He will do

everything he can to prevent you. He will not be made into a man if he can help it. What you have done about that tin soldier I do not know. But what God did about us was this: The Second Person in God, the Son, became human Himself... And because the whole difficulty for us is that the natural life has to be, in a sense, "killed," He chose an earthly career which involved the killing of His human desires at every turn - poverty, misunderstanding from His own family, betrayal by one of His intimate friends, being jeered at and manhandled by the police, and execution by torture. And then, after being thus killed - killed every day in a sense - the human creature in Him, because it was united to the divine Son, came to life again. The Man in Christ rose again: not only the God. That is the whole point, for the first time we saw a real man. One tin soldier - real tin, just like the rest - had come fully and splendidly alive."

- C.S. Lewis Mere Christianity

- v. Endure – *hypomone*, to endure beyond what is normal, everyone else has given up. Continuance. Power to persevere.
- vi. Patience – *makrothyme*, is towards others. It is your emotional state. Remain calm in the presence of misfortune, irritation, aggravation
- vii. Joyful Thanks –

1:12 – “giving thanks[d] to the Father, who has qualified you[e] to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.”

- 1. Qualified you:
 - c. Inheritance;
 - d. With Holy people;
 - e. In Kingdom of light

1:13 – “He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,”

- 1. Rescued us from kingdom of darkness
- 2. The Son is mentioned

1:14 – “in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

- 1. It is in this Son that we have:
 - a. redemption which means we have been purchased
 - b. forgiveness which means our fellowship is restored
- 2. We have been placed in a power dynamo and spiritual energy generator

1:15-20 – This sends Paul off on one of the greatest NT Christological passages

1:21-23 – Paul compares what we now have to what we did have. Paul warns the Colossians the danger of losing this spiritual dynamo. He is not warning of losing their salvation.

1:24 – Paul begins to discuss his ministry.