

Colossians 1:9-16

1:10-11 – The goal of this knowledge and revelation of the wisdom of God revealed by the Holy Spirit is: “that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way!”

And, to please the Lord we must (“well done” Matthew 25:23):

1. Bear fruit – John 15 (evangelism, personal growth, spiritual gift development, and Daniel 12:3, etc.)
2. Do good works – Ephesians 2:6-11,
3. Grow in the knowledge of God – God’s will above is directly related to your growth in the Christian experience. So, growth and fruit are not just works and good deeds and others, but your own relationship and understanding.
4. Be empowered by God – two similar words emphasizes the power “**Dunamou kratos**” or “power strengthened” Greek “**Dunamou Kratos**” –
 - a. **Dunamou** means “to make strong, to strengthen.” It comes from the word “dunamis” which means “strength, ability and inherent power.” This is power that resides in a thing. It is the potential power to exert force to perform a purpose.”
 - b. **Kratos** means “relative, manifested power.” In Romans 9:4 the **doxa** (“glory”) over the mercy seat was “kratos.” (“Theirs is the adoption as sons, theirs the divine glory, the covenants...”) **Kratos** indicates “the power to rule or control.”
 - c. This is where we tap into God’s strength, not human works. God desires this transformation. Tin man story.
5. Endure – **hypomone**, to endure beyond what is normal, everyone else has given up. Continuance. Power to persevere. This most often refers to events in life that must be endured.
6. Patience – **makrothyme**, is towards others. It is your emotional state. Remain calm in the presence of misfortune, irritation, aggravation.
7. Joyful Thanks – this is heartfelt and an expression of the reality that is in the soul.

1:12 – “Qualified” only appears here and Qualified you:

1. Inheritance
2. With Holy people
3. In Kingdom of light – Kingdom of Christ is the kingdom that will be handed over to God the Father (1 Cor. 15:24). The ultimate kingdom is then the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of Christ is here and in 1 Cor. 15:24.

1:13 – Rescued us from kingdom of darkness

The Son is mentioned

1:14 – It is in this Son that we have:

1. redemption which means we have been purchased
2. forgiveness which means our fellowship is restored

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

Anthony Flew quotes from “There is a God”

“As I have said more than once, no other religion enjoys anything like the combination of a charismatic figure like Jesus and a first-class intellectual like St. Paul. If you’re wanting omnipotence to set up a religion, it seems to me that this is the one to beat!”

“The discovery of phenomena like the laws of nature...has led scientists, philosophers, and others to accept the existence of an infinitely intelligent Mind. Some claim to have made contact with this Mind. I have not – yet. But who knows what could happen next?”

“The only satisfactory explanation for the origin of such “end-directed, self-replicating life as we see on earth is an infinitely intelligent Mind.”