

# Walk Ye In Him

Intro: Ephesians and Colossians are parallel books. Paul wrote Ephesians to glorify the church in the eternal purpose of God; while he wrote Colossians to glorify the head of the body—Christ. Paul presents Christ as deity, preeminent, and redeemer. He also presents that the Christian life is related in action by the Christians relationship to Christ, thus the way they act. With this in mind let us study our text. Col. 2:6-8 “<sup>6</sup> As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, *so* walk ye in him: <sup>7</sup> Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. <sup>8</sup> Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.”

## I. THEY HAD RECEIVED CHRIST.

A. Col. 2:6 “<sup>6</sup> As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, *so* walk ye in him:”

### B. This they did by faith

1. Col. 1:4 “<sup>4</sup> Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love *which ye have* to all the saints,”
2. Col. 2:5 “<sup>5</sup> For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the stedfastness of your faith in Christ.”
3. They heard the word of God (probably from Epaphras).
  - a. Col. 1:5-7 “<sup>5</sup> For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel; <sup>6</sup> Which is come unto you, as *it is* in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as *it doth* also in you, since the day ye heard *of it*, and knew the grace of God in truth: <sup>7</sup> As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ;”
  - b. Rom. 10:17 “<sup>17</sup> So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
4. This faith expressed itself in obedience.
  - a. That obedience is the same as in other places.
  - b. Upon their faith in Christ they repented of their sins.
    - (1) Luke 13:3 “<sup>3</sup> I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.”
    - (2) Acts 17:30 “<sup>30</sup> And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:”
  - c. Their faith in Christ lead them to be baptized in water for the forgiveness of sins.
    - (1) Mark 16:16 “<sup>16</sup> He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
    - (2) Acts 2:38 “<sup>38</sup> Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
    - (3) Col. 2:12 “<sup>12</sup> Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with *him* through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead”

### C. With the assurance of forgiveness

1. When one in humble submission to Christ, obeys His commands, he will receive remission of his sins.
  - a. God is faithful; He will do what He says; His Word is sure.
  - b. Psa. 93:5 “<sup>5</sup> Thy testimonies are very sure: holiness becometh thine house, O Lord, for ever.”
  - c. Psa. 111:7 “<sup>7</sup> The works of his hands *are* verity and judgment; all his commandments *are* sure.”
  - d. When He promises forgiveness, we will receive it upon meeting the conditions He sets forth.

2. That redemption is in Christ.
  - a. Col. 2:13 <sup>“13</sup> And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;”
  - b. Rom. 3:24 <sup>“24</sup> Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:”
  - c. In the blood which He shed on the cross.
    - (1) Col. 1:14 <sup>“14</sup> In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins.”
    - (2) Eph. 1:7 <sup>“7</sup> In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”
3. Baptism’s relationship:
  - a. We must be baptized to get into Christ.
    - (1) Rom. 6:3 <sup>“3</sup> Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?”
    - (2) Gal. 3:27 <sup>“27</sup> For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”
  - b. We must be baptized to appropriate Christ blood.
    - (1) Remission of sins:
      - (a) Mat. 26:28 <sup>“28</sup> For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.”
      - (b) Acts 2:38 <sup>“38</sup> Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
    - (2) Washing away sins:
      - (a) Rev. 1:5 <sup>“5</sup> And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,”
      - (b) Acts 22:16 <sup>“16</sup> And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”

#### D. As the head of the church.

1. Col. 1:18 <sup>“18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all *things* he might have the preeminence.”
2. Eph. 1:22-23 <sup>“22</sup> And hath put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things* to the church, <sup>23</sup> Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.”
3. Means He is the one who controls, leads, has the authority over the church.

#### E. As their Lord.

1. Col. 2:6 <sup>“6</sup> As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, *so* walk ye in him:”
2. Acts 2:36 <sup>“36</sup> Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.”
3. Acts 10:36 <sup>“36</sup> The word which *God* sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)”
4. *Lord* means master or ruler
  - a. It denotes the Kingship of Jesus.
  - b. We are to allow Him to rule and control our lives.

#### F. As their mediator

1. Col. 1:20-22 <sup>“20</sup> And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, *I say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven. <sup>21</sup> And you, that were

sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled <sup>22</sup>In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:"

2. 1 Tim. 2:5 <sup>45</sup> For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;"
3. A mediator is one who goes between two parties that are estranged with a view to making peace.
  - a. To act as a mediator one must possess the nature and attributes of both parties.
  - b. Christ possesses the nature of God.
  - c. Christ possesses the nature of man (sin apart).

## II. THAT THEY SHOULD WALK IN HIM.

**A. Col. 2:6** <sup>46</sup> As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, *so* walk ye in him:"

### **B. Suggest a continuation.**

1. Col. 1:23 <sup>43</sup> If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;"
2. Mat. 10:22 <sup>23</sup> And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved."
3. 1 Cor. 15:58 <sup>58</sup> Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."
4. Rev. 2:10 <sup>10</sup> Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast *some* of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."
5. No promise of reward to the quitter.

### **C. Being rooted and grounded;**

1. Col. 2:7 <sup>7</sup> Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."
2. As a tree.
  - a. John 15:4 <sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me."
  - b. Psa. 1:3 <sup>3</sup> And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."
3. As a building.
  - a. 1 Cor. 3:11 <sup>11</sup> For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."
  - b. Eph. 2:20-22 <sup>20</sup> And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone* ; <sup>21</sup> In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: <sup>22</sup> In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit."
  - c. 1 Pet. 2:6-7 <sup>6</sup> Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. <sup>7</sup> Unto you therefore which believe *he is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,"
4. The only way to be rooted and grounded is through a knowledge of the word
  - a. Eph. 4:14-15 <sup>14</sup> That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait

to deceive; <sup>15</sup> But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:"

- b. That is why we need to study the scriptures; 2 Tim. 2:15 <sup>15</sup> Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

#### D. As they had been taught.

1. What had they been taught?
2. Col. 1:5 <sup>5</sup> For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;"
3. They had been taught the truth.
  - a. John 8:31-32 <sup>31</sup> Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed; <sup>32</sup> And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."
  - b. John 17:17 <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."
4. They had been taught the Gospel.
  - a. Mark 16:15-16 <sup>15</sup> And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. <sup>16</sup> He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned"
  - b. Rom. 1:16-17 <sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. <sup>17</sup> For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."

#### E. Abounding with thanksgiving.

1. For the salvation and life we have in Christ.
  - a. Col. 3:17 <sup>17</sup> And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."
  - b. 2 Cor. 9:15 <sup>15</sup> Thanks *be* unto God for his unspeakable gift."
2. For all things.
  - a. Eph. 5:20 <sup>20</sup> Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;"
  - b. Phi. 4:6 <sup>6</sup> Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."
  - c. 1 The. 5:18 <sup>18</sup> In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

### III. BE ON GUARD AS THEY WALKED.

A. Col. 2:8 <sup>8</sup> Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

#### B. We have the responsibility to watch (be on guard).

1. Mat. 26:41 <sup>41</sup> Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak."
2. 1 Cor. 16:13 <sup>13</sup> Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."
3. 1 Pet. 5:8 <sup>8</sup> Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"
4. Because of
  - a. False teachers.
    - (1) Mat. 7:15 <sup>15</sup> Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

(2) 1 John 4:1 “<sup>1</sup> Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”

b. The appeal of the world.

(1) Luke 8:13-14 “<sup>13</sup> They on the rock *are they*, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. <sup>14</sup> And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of *this* life, and bring no fruit to perfection.”

(2) 2 Tim. 4:10 “<sup>10</sup> For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.”

**C. There are those who would destroy the Christian’s faith.**

1. Through philosophy.

a. Philosophy simply means the love of wisdom.

b. It is any system of thought and/or moral discipline, here that would be separated from God.

c. The philosophy that is spoken of here is vain (empty) deceit.

2. Through the traditions of men.

a. Teachings and laws originating in men and handed down from generation to generation.

b. Mat. 15:9 “<sup>9</sup> But in vain they do worship me, teaching *for* doctrines the commandments of men.”

3. Through the rudiments (elements; possibly applying to teachings) of the world. Humanly invented rules and regulations regarding the things of this world.

**Conclusion:** Col. 2:10 “<sup>10</sup> And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power.”