

COMPLETE IN CHRIST

APRIL 24, 2019

COLOSSIANS 1:9-10

Paul's prayer: To be filled with the knowledge of God's will, and increase in the knowledge of God. The goal: To walk in a way that pleases God, and to live productive Christian lives.

COLOSSIANS 2:6-8 (KJV), V9-10 (AMPC)

We received Christ by faith and we walk in Him by faith. We are to be rooted and established in the faith, not in: Philosophy, vain deceit, traditions of men or the rudiments of the world.

GALATIANS 4:8-11 (EXB)

John Gill commentary. "In Christ are the treasures of wisdom and knowledge; and therefore, all such vain and deceitful philosophy, human traditions, and worldly elements are to be rejected. Christ is the standard of doctrine and worship; He only is to be heard and attended to, and whatever is contrary is to be guarded against."

In Christ, everything represented in the temple, dwells. The very fulness of the Godhead in bodily form. Being in Christ, we too have within been made complete and are filled with the Godhead.

- Being born again is more than praying a prayer that takes us to Heaven someday. It's about knowing God personally. **JOHN 17:3**
- It's about transformation: A new way of thinking, living, and a new motivation and agenda. **ROMANS 12:1-2, 1 JOHN 2:6**
- It's about manifesting His image and glory. **COLOSSIANS 3:9-14** God made man in His image and crowned him with glory and honor. All of which was lost in the fall. Adam fell victim to fear and shame.
- It's about becoming what He created us to be. When Adam ate the fruit, everything he was created to be died. Jesus died so we could become what we were created to be in the beginning. Redemption is more than a religious story. It's God putting Himself in the body of a woman to make things right. He must think a lot about what He created us to be to do what He did. He thought it was worth His life. We were never created to be selfish, self-centered, self-willed beings. That teaching comes from the image of the enemy.
EPHESIANS 4:17-24
- It's about growing in God's love. **EPHESIANS 4:15** To know God is to know love. **1 JOHN 4:7-8** Love is to be our new teacher. We assemble to provoke to love and good works. **HEBREWS 10:24** We're here to love, not be loved; to give, not to get; to rejoice, not to complain; to live in peace, not strife.

JOHN 8:31-32

- Truth determines how we're doing, not circumstances; decides how we are, not people.
- **COLOSSIANS 1:27** Christ in us is our hope of glory. The goal of the gospel is not to align our circumstances to agree with our preferences. It's to align us with who we are in Christ so we can use our authority to change our circumstances.

CONCLUSION:

Our lives are not to be fashioned by things that aren't true. We're not to let people, places or things decide who we are. We're to believe who God says we are – complete in Christ!