“A Prayer for Knowledge, Wisdom, and Understanding In the Church”

Colossians 1:9-12 Sunday September 24, 2023

## INTRODUCTION READ Colossians 1:1-30

Pilgrim’s Progress Mr. Worldly Wiseman

Sufficiency of The Person and Work of Christ For All Explained Chapter One Supremacy Over All He Is Lord of Creation and Lord of the Church

“Pray As An Apostle Prayed” or “How to Pray for Believers”

1. Praying for Others Asking God for The Knowledge of His Will
2. Simple Practical Action of This Christian Prayer 1:9

“For this reason also, since the day we heard . . .” 1:4, 6

“ . . . we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask . . .”

His prayer of thanksgiving leads to his prayer of intercession

The aim of his prayer is for all for these Colossians in Christ

 “all . . . all . . . all . . . all . . .” and “full knowledge . . . full knowledge”

1. One Personal Petition of This Christian Prayer 1:10a

“that you may be filled . . .

 “ . . . with the full knowledge of His will . . .”

 cf. 4:12 “ . . . in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,”

* *become full, be filled with*; with reference to the will of God *carry out, perform, accomplish* completely, totally, entirely, fully
* praying for the total will of God in every area of their lives and not their own wills and desires for the actions & decisions

wisdom--knowledge which makes possible skillful activity in real life

understanding is the ability to apply principles to any given situation in life “understanding so that wisdom can go to the treasure vault of the knowledge of His will” all three important & needed & available

1 Corinthians 3:18-19; 2 Corinthians 1:12; 2 Timothy 3:14-15; James 3:15

READ 1 Corinthians 2:12-14

1. The Purposeful Direction for This Christian Prayer 1:10b

“. . . so that you may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord . . .”

to please *Him* in all respects, cf. 2:6 Remember Ephesians 4:1

* that we should walk in a way that reflects or displays how much He is worthy of such obedience on our part “”to please Him in all aspects”
* Who the Lord Jesus Is & what the Lord Jesus deserves in my life
* "living a certain way that seeks to please Him in everything”

Characteristics of Such A Walk of Life Which Is Worthy of the Lord

 spiritual progress and development [four participles] cf. 1:6-8

1. Greater Abundance of Good Deeds

 “bearing fruit in every good work “all kinds of good deeds”

1. Bigger Presence of the Knowledge of God 1:11a

 “and multiplying in the full knowledge of God;”

‘knowledge about’ then ‘you will know more and more about God,’

but if to be understood ‘to experience knowledge’ then ‘you will know God more and more’ or ‘you will come to know more and more what God does.’

1. Stronger Dependence upon The Power of God 1:11b

 “being strengthened with all power, “all the power you need”

“by every enabling power being constantly strengthened.”

 according to His glorious might, “God’s glorious strength”

 for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience joyously;

 “in whatever you experience and whoever you face”

“not makes us powerful, but in no power we need does God leave us deficient”

1. Larger Confidence in The Grace of God

“giving Thanks to the Father . . .” 1:12 cf. 1:2-3

“who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints . . .”

CONCLUSION Practical Action. . .Personal Petition . . .Purposeful Direction

* Praying and Asking as Christians for the spiritual progress and development of other Christians in the church body Praying this Prayer
* Memorize this prayer so that you would pray for any believer in any situation for all that they need in every need for prayer
* Read this epistle again and again this week