

## The Practices of God's Sons and Daughters II

### 1) Colossians 1:1 – 12 NKJV

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, <sup>2</sup> To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ *who are* in Colosse: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup> We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, <sup>4</sup> since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints;

<sup>5</sup> because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, <sup>6</sup> which has come to you, as *it has* also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as *it is* also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth; <sup>7</sup> as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, <sup>8</sup> who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup> For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; <sup>10</sup> that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; <sup>11</sup> strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

a. Now that Paul knew that the Colossian Church had faith, love, grace, truth and was bearing fruit, why was he praying for them without ceasing?

b. What was he praying for them to receive?

c. What does it mean to be filled with all the knowledge of God's will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding?

d. What does it mean to walk worthy of the Lord fully pleasing Him?

e. What does it mean to be fruitful in good works and increasing in the knowledge of God?

f. Why does Paul want us to be strengthened with all might according to God's glorious power?

g. Why does Paul want us to give thanks to the Father in this instance?

## 2) Colossians 1:26 – 27

<sup>26</sup> the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. <sup>27</sup> To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

a. What is the mystery which was hidden from ages and generations that is now revealed to the saints?

b. What does “Christ in you, the hope of glory” mean?

c. What is glory, and should we want more?

d. What does hope mean?

e. Can meditation on God and His Word grow our imagination in the things of God and increase our expectancy and the glory of God we see in our lives?

## 3) Colossians 2:1 – 3

2 For I want you to know what a great conflict I have for you and those in Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh, <sup>2</sup> that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and *attaining* to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, <sup>3</sup> in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

a. What is the mystery that Paul wants the followers of Jesus to have full assurance of understanding and knowledge of?

b. Why does he want them to have full assurance of “Christ in you the hope of Glory”?

## 4) Colossians 2:4 - 6

<sup>4</sup> Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words. <sup>5</sup> For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your *good* order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. <sup>6</sup> As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

a. What does it mean, “As you received Christ Jesus so walk in Him”?

## 5) Colossians 2: 7 – 10

<sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. <sup>8</sup> Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of

the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup> For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; <sup>10</sup> and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

a. What philosophy is not according to Christ and can keep us from a deeper walk with Him through deceit?

#### 6) Colossians 2:11 – 15

<sup>11</sup> In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup> buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with *Him* through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. <sup>13</sup> And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, <sup>14</sup> having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

a. How many of our trespasses have been forgiven?

#### 7) Colossians 2:16 - 23

<sup>16</sup> So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, <sup>17</sup> which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. <sup>18</sup> Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in *false* humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, <sup>19</sup> and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase *that is* from God.

<sup>20</sup> Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as *though* living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations— <sup>21</sup> “Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,” <sup>22</sup> which all concern things which perish with the using— according to the commandments and doctrines of men? <sup>23</sup> These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, *false* humility, and neglect of the body, *but are* of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.

a. What is religion, and how can it keep us from being filled with all the knowledge of the mystery of Christ in us, the “expectation” of glory?