Paul's Prayer for the Colossians

COLOSSIANS 1:9-11

• ...that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

- ...that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will...
- We need to add knowledge to our faith 2
 Peter 1:5-6
- We are to understand the Lord's will Ephesians 5:15-17
- Lack of knowledge destroys God's people
 Hosea 4:6
- Col. 2:3,4,8,17,18,20

- in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;
 Wisdom is the correct application of knowledge
- Knowledge without wisdom is vain
- 1 Cor. 8:1-2; 13:2; Gal. 6:3; Jm 3:1,13-18
- Proverbs 3:3-4 mercy + truth \rightarrow favor
- Prov. 1:7 fear of the Lord \rightarrow wisdom
- John 7:17 If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine

- that you may walk worthy of the Lord,
 Walk is an active process for a specific destination Col. 4:5 follows wisdom
- Romans 6:3-4 Christian's lifestyle
- Conduct befitting of the gospel Phil. 1:27
- Walk in Christ Col. 2:6
- Walk in wisdom Col. 4:5
- Motivation and pattern for becoming like
 Christ 2 Cor. 3:18

- fully (in every way) pleasing Him,
- Micah 6:8 do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with God → pleasing God
- Enoch walked with God → pleased God
 Hebrews 11:5
- Faith in God's goodness pleases Him v.6
- Sacrifices of praise and benevolence please Him Heb. 12:15-16
- 1 John 3:22

- being fruitful in every good work
- 2 Tim. 3:16-17 scripture is the only source to furnish us to every good work
- Only source to reveal what pleases God 1
 Cor. 2:8-16
- We must bear fruit or die! John 15:1-8
- Fruit is reproduction Matt. 28:18-20
- Fruit of the Spirit Gal. 5:22-23
- Fruit of our lips Heb. 13:15

- increasing in the knowledge of God
- Know the Word of God in order to know the God of the Word
- True motive for Bible study Phil. 3:7-11
- Bible knowledge ≠ knowledge of God
- Ephesians 3:18-19
- Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ 2 Pet. 3:18

- strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power,
- Strength is a result of knowing God
- All believers have God's power Eph. 3:20
- How is God's power demonstrated in our lives?

- for all patience and longsuffering with joy
- Hope is the key to endurance 1 Th 1:3
- We need endurance to finish the race Heb.
 12:1-3
- Not in miracles but in patience and grace under fire Col. 4:5-6; Philippians 2:14-16

- ...that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will + all wisdom and spiritual understanding \rightarrow that you may walk worthy of the Lord → fully pleasing Him ← being fruitful in every good work \rightarrow increasing in the knowledge of God \rightarrow strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power \rightarrow for all patience and longsuffering with joy
- v.13 were dead in the power of darkness
- 2:11-13 dead must be buried & raised