

SUNDAY APRIL 11, 2021

COLOSSIANS: CHRIST ALONE

A PRISONER'S PRAYER

This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and from our brother Timothy. ² We are writing to God's holy people in the city of Colosse, who are faithful brothers and sisters in Christ. May God our Father give you grace and peace. ³ We always pray for you, and we give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of God's people, 5 which come from your confident hope of what God has reserved for you in heaven. You have had this expectation ever since you first heard the truth of the Good News. 6 This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world. It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives, just as it changed your lives from the day you first heard and understood the truth about God's wonderful grace. 7 You learned about the Good News from Epaphras, our beloved co-worker. He is Christ's faithful servant, and he is helping us on your behalf. 8 He has told us about the love for others that the Holy Spirit has given you. 9 So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. 10 Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better. 11 We also pray that you will be strengthened with all his glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need. May you be filled with joy.

~ Colossians 1:1-11

A PRISONER'S PRAYER

I want you to know how much I have agonized for you and for the church at Laodicea, and for many other believers who have never met me personally. ~ Colossians 2:1

You learned about the Good News from Epaphras, our beloved coworker. He is Christ's faithful servant, and he is helping us on your behalf. ~ Colossians 1:7 So <u>you also are complete through your union with Christ</u>, who is the head over every ruler and authority. ~ Colossians 2:10

Paul Prays for Three Request for the Colossians:

1. SPIRITUAL INTELLIGENCE

Memory Verse

So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you <u>complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding.</u>

~ Colossians 1:9

2. PRACTICAL OBEDIENCE

Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better. ~ Colossians 1:10

But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. ~ James 1:22

3. MORAL EXCELLENCE

We also pray that you will be <u>strengthened with all his glorious power</u> so you will have <u>all the endurance and patience you need</u>. May you be filled with joy. ~ Colossians 1:11-12

He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city. ~ Proverbs 16:32

Next Steps

- Memorize Colossians 1:9
- Sign up for growth track
- Sign up for Men's breakfast on 4/24