

A Case For Abounding Thankfulness

Colossians 2:6-15

So Walk In Him

The overarching theme for verses 6-7 could be termed walking in Christ.

To walk in Christ is Paul's way of saying conduct your life in a way that is completely consistent with the way Christ lived his life.

Paul describes this walk in four ways:

- **Rooted** – The image Paul want us to grasp is the idea of roots growing deep into the soil both as an anchor and a source of nutrient for the plant.
 - Likewise, we are to continue to develop deeper and deeper roots in God's word as the anchor of our walk with Christ.
- **Built up** – The idea is that of building up from the foundation.
 - The Colossians had been established on the true foundation of Christ crucified and resurrected – the Lord of all creation and Lord of Salvation; it is on this foundation they were to build. By building up, they are living out the dynamic power and presence of Christ in them.
- **Established** – the core of this word has to do with walking where it is solid.
 - When it comes to what we are to believe in, we are to look for the solid footing of God's revealed truth and stay on that path.
- **Abounding in thanksgiving** -- Thanksgiving is a means to continued growth as well as an indicator of spiritual vitality.
 - Gratitude is, for Paul, a natural and appropriate response to the grace of God.
 - It seems only natural the apostle would encourage other followers of Jesus to respond in a similar way considering the magnanimous grace that they too have experienced.
 - Ingratitude breeds:
 - contempt, privilege, entitlement, neglect and eventual abandonment.
 - Gratitude encourages:
 - humility, responsibility, generosity, attention, and involvement.

The Case For Thanksgiving

Paul builds a strong case for why we should give thanks in verses 9-15.

Everything we need for salvation is complete in Christ
We have become completely identified in and with Christ
Christ is our life and our hope
We have been forgiven
Christ has defeated the enemies of our soul and us His victory.

How do we say thanks?

- Remembering
- Celebrating
- Surrendering
- Living

