



# *The Epistle to the Colossians*

## *Col 2:9-10 'He is the Solution to Our Inadequacy'*

### *• Col 2:9 – “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;”*

- The term *For* gives another reason to abandon false teaching.
  - McCalley – ‘The most common pursuits of men are things (*I Tim 6:17*), people (*Isaiah 40:6-8*), and human ideas (*Col 2:8*).
- *dwells* – a fact; and also a metaphor for divine powers, influences, etc. - said to pervade, prompt, and govern His soul.
- What do you think about when you consider *all the fullness of the Godhead bodily*?
  - Particularly *fullness*, which was an important theme for the Gnostics?
    - *Col 1:19 - For in him all the fulness of God was pleased to dwell,*
    - *Phil 2:6,7 - who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.*
    - *John 1:1 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*



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- *Rom 1:20 - For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and **Godhead**, so that they are without excuse,*
- *John 14:10 - Do you not believe that **I am in the Father, and the Father in Me?** The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.*
- The Greek word *theotēs* indicates the unique essence of God.
  - And *bodily* – not in the Jewish temple or tabernacle but in human flesh.
    - » *John 1:14 - And **the Word became flesh** and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*
- How does this phrase relate to other views of our Lord Jesus Christ?
  - Clarke – ‘This is opposed to the vain or empty doctrine of the Gentile and Jewish philosophers: there is a **fullness in Christ** suited to the empty, destitute state of the human soul, but in the philosophy of the Jews and Gentiles nothing like this was found; nor indeed in the more refined and correct philosophy of the present day. No substitute has ever been found for the grace of the Lord Jesus, and those who have sought for one have disquieted themselves in vain.’



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*Col 2:10 – “and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.”*

*–And you are complete in Him*

- *you are* is present indicative but *complete* is passive – we are made *complete*!
- Can we equate being made *complete in Him* with *fullness*?
  - *John 1:16 – And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.*
  - *Eph 3:19 - to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*
    - » *Vincent - Not, ye are made full in Him, but ye are in Him, made full.*
- Do we really believe this and if not why?
- This is identification!
  - *1 John 2:23 - Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.*
  - *2 Peter 1:3,4 - as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious*



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*promises, that through these you may be **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*

- What hinders us here in experiencing this identification; is it our limited belief or the sin nature, world system and/or Satan?

– *who is the head of all principality and power.*

- Why do you think this phrase was added?

- Gill – ‘This is mentioned, partly to set forth the **glory and excellency of Christ**; and partly against worshipping of angels, making use of them as mediators, or applying to them on any account,’

- *Eph 1:10 - that in the **dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ**, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.*

- *Col 1:18 - And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that **in all things He may have the preeminence.***

- *1 Peter 3:22 - who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers **having been made subject to Him.***



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*Remember, faith is believing what  
God has revealed!*