

COLOSSIANS 2:4-7

JESUS
IS
ENOUGH

Walking
IN HIM

Review

1 For I [Paul] want you to know how great a struggle I have on your behalf and for those who are at Laodicea, and for all those who have not personally seen my face,

2a that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and *attaining* to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding,

2b *resulting* in a true knowledge of God's mystery, *that is, Christ Himself*, [*lit: The mystery is Christ*]

3 in whom [Christ] are hidden
all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Next Paul will explain why
this is so important!

a truth not
previously
revealed

Today's Verses

Today we are starting a section where Paul will discuss false teaching and our union with Christ*

4a I say this so that

4b no one will delude you with persuasive argument.

5 For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ.

6 Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

7 having been firmly rooted *and now* being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, *and* overflowing with gratitude.

Overview of Chapter 2

Obstacle:
false
teachers -
will delude you
with
persuasive
argument

you as a
believer
can be
deceived!

Paul's
approach:
teach our
union with
Christ
in our walk*

* McCalley

4 I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument.

I say this – what is **this**?
so that – with a purpose that
no one – not even one!
will delude you

that all the
treasures of wisdom
and knowledge are
in Christ *Himself*

delude – *paralogizomai* - to reason someone off to the
side, to beguile

- to deceive by false reasoning*
- to lead astray by false reasoning*
- James 1:22 But prove yourselves doers of the word,
and not merely hearers who delude themselves.
- next we find out how they [false teachers] will do it

4 I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument.

with persuasive argument – this is how they will delude you!

persuasive - *pithanlogia* - from *peithō*, "to persuade,"
and *logos*, "word,"

- persuasive words - speech altered to persuade*
- persuasiveness of speech - false discourse leading others into error*
- manipulating words so that the truth will not be seen

McCalley

Rom 16:18 For such men are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting.

* Wuest

5 For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ.

Paul now commends
the Colossians !

I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit

- 1 Cor 5:3 For I, on my part, though absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged him who has so committed this, as though I were present.
- 1 Cor 5:4 In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you are assembled, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus.

rejoicing to see or rejoicing and beholding

- delighted at the sight (Amplified)
- Paul was rejoicing even though he was absent.

5 For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ.

good discipline - *taxis* - a military term speaking of an
orderly array of soldiers

- Military order or the closing of the ranks under God's pastor/teachers at Colossae. Merryman
- Paul's description of the Colossian church pictures a company of well disciplined soldiers standing at attention in straight lines. Constable

stability - *stereōma* - strength, steadfastness

- Another military term is found in the word steadfastness. It was used to describe a rectangular block of Roman infantry soldiers.
of your faith in Christ



6 Therefore **as** you have received Christ Jesus the Lord,
so walk in Him,

How we understand the word **as** is very important!

usual teaching:*

as refers to the
principle upon which
you were saved

- You received Christ
by the principle of
faith
- So now walk by the
principle of faith

contextual teaching:*

as refers to the **form**
on which you received
Christ

- You received Christ
Jesus as deity
- So now walk in Him
as counting on Him
as fully deity

Obstacle: The false teachers were attacking the deity
and authority of Christ, and the Colossians needed to
stand firm in their convictions concerning Him.*

You received Christ by the principle of faith

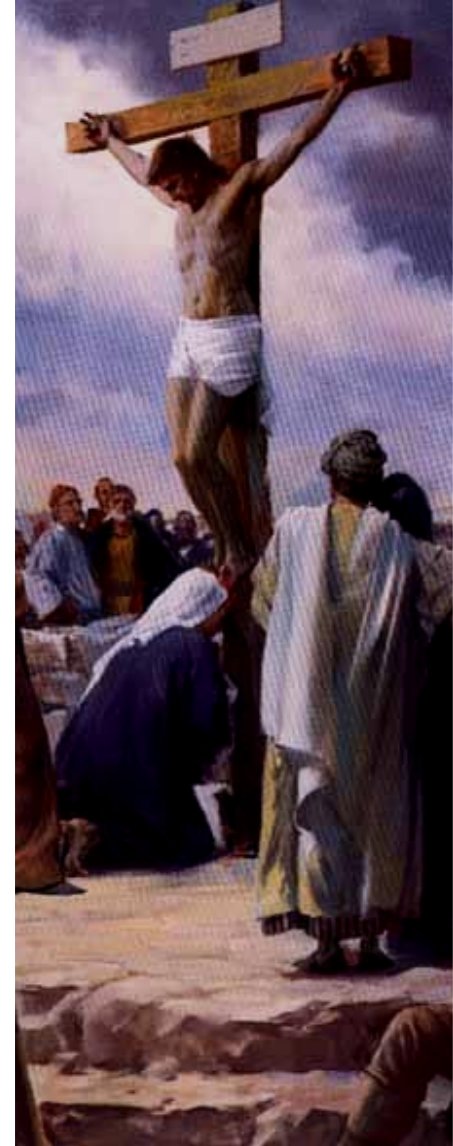
You believed in the Gospel

- You were saved from the penalty of sin
- Christ died for me
- Christ is my substitute
- Christ is the propitiation for my sins
- Christ's payment for sins is the issue

So now walk by the principle of faith

You are now to realize the following:

- I died with Christ
- I'm separated from my sin nature [Adam's]
- I'm being saved from the power of sin
- Christ is my life
- It is a process or a walk



How Paul describes “the form” of Christ Jesus Who He Is!

1:15 He is the image of the invisible God

1:16 all things have been created through Him
and for Him.

1:17 He is before all things, and in Him all things
hold together.

1:18a He is also head of the body, the church;

1:18b He is the beginning, the firstborn from the
dead, so that

1:18c He Himself will come to have first place in
everything.

7 having been firmly rooted *and now* being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, *and* overflowing with gratitude.

1st - their past experience is noted by the words *firmly rooted*, a perfect participle*

[You] having been firmly rooted [in Him]

- to cause to take root
- you were rooted in Him when you were saved [past completed action]
- It's all finished – It's a done deal*
*McCalley
- Eph 3:17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

this verse
tell us about
how they
received
Christ

7 having been firmly rooted *and* now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, *and* overflowing with gratitude.

2nd - their present condition is stated using two present tense participles, being *built up* and *established*.*

[you *are*] *now* being built up in Him

- to build upon – continuous growth
- continuously being built up* *McCalley
- Acts 20:32 And now I commend --- to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

[you *are being*] established in your [the] faith

- “the faith” is the body of truth [once for all handed down to the saints - Jude 1:3]

7 having been firmly rooted *and now* being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

3rd - How they were rooted is explained next:
just as you were instructed

- In the sense of “to tutor” - lit: to put in mind Zodhiates
- The root of your stability is all based on you having been instructed. Merryman
- Paul was not their instructor, but it appears that this speaks of the event(s) of Ephesus instructing them.

Lastly they were - overflowing with gratitude

- A thankful spirit is one mark of Christian maturity.
When a believer is abounding in thanksgiving, he is really making progress! Constable

Final Thoughts



The were five errors that endangered the Colossian church which Paul will deal with in Chapter 2:*

1. Enticing words – verses 4-7
2. Philosophy – verses 8-13
3. Legality – verses 14-17
4. Mysticism – verses 18-19
5. Asceticism – verses 20-23

* J Veron McGee

Final Thoughts



The truths about our union with Christ

2:6 Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

2:7 having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

2:10 and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority;

2:11 and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;

2:12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.