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Continue in our verse by verse study of Colossians

Colossians 1:9-14

New Living Translation

**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** *(So that.. NIV)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 (that) you will have all the endurance and patience you need. May you be filled with joy,*  
**12** *always thanking the Father. He has enabled you (qualified you) to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light.*

**13** *For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son,*

**14** *who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.”*

The Passion Translation

**9** *“Since we first heard about you, we’ve kept you always in our prayers that you would receive the perfect knowledge of God’s pleasure over your lives, making you reservoirs of every kind of wisdom and spiritual understanding.*

**10** *We pray that you would walk in the ways of true righteousness, pleasing God in every good thing you do. Then you’ll become fruit-bearing branches, yielding to his life, and maturing in the rich experience of knowing God in his fullness!*

**11** *And we pray that you would be energized with all his explosive power from the realm of his magnificent glory, filling you with great hope.*

**12** *Your hearts can soar with joyful gratitude when you think of how God made you worthy to receive the glorious inheritance freely given to us by living in the light.*

**13** *He has rescued us completely from the tyrannical rule of darkness and has translated us into the kingdom realm of his beloved Son.*

**14** *For in the Son all our sins are canceled and we have the release of redemption through his very blood.”*

◁ Paul continues in sharing prayers for those in Colosse but his prayers shift from Prayers of Thanksgiving to Prayers of Intercession

Intercession = pleading on behalf of someone else, standing in the place of another

The weight of caring God’s People in your heart!

◊ in these verses we see Paul's 2 distinct prayers of intercession for knowing the will of God and being strengthened by the power of God.

### 1. Vs 9 - Complete - full knowledge of His Will

Knowledge = discernment to put into actionable points, cognitive ability, perception that changed understanding which in turn changed behavior

Directed to the Gnosticism - the conviction that matter is evil and that emancipation comes through gnosis. And taught that salvation is achieved through special knowledge (gnosis).

#### **The Passion**

*... that you would receive the perfect knowledge of God's pleasure over your lives, making you reservoirs of every kind of wisdom and spiritual understanding*

.....asking *specifically for you*                      **Amplified Bible**

- There is a Carnal or Spiritual "will" - desires that we can follow and/or be governed by
- First off this is a prayer that most of us would consider gutsy or bold.
- This is a core value of Vintage - to pursue the Presence of God and therefore His will.
- I propose that we have been taught wrong that the will of God is difficult at best to discern
- Maybe the issue is sometimes we are unclear as to the future will of God because we are not taking joy or delight in the known will of God

#### **Psalms 40:8 quoted in Hebrews**

*"I take joy in doing your will, my God, for your instructions are written on my heart."*

#### **Vs 9 Give you/ make you/ you maybe filled**

**Wisdom** = seeing God's point of view - Comprehension - insights into His purposes

◊ ie. **Flying into SFO** - perspective from the air

**Understanding** = living life from God's point of view - Application

Which becomes the "controlling influence" of our behavior

◇ Being controlled by God's will means believers comprehend the practical aspects of knowing God and then put them into practice in their daily lives.

## The Passion vs 10

*We pray that you would walk in the ways of true righteousness, pleasing God in every good thing you do. Then you'll become fruit-bearing branches, yielding to his life, and maturing in the rich experience of knowing God in his fullness!*

cf. - *Walking in a worthy manner of your calling*      Ephesians 4:1

..... *give preference to one another in honor.*      Romans 12:10b. NASV

◇ Vs 10 - Knowing the will of God - produces a life of honor that pleases the Lord....HOW...

Walking = equates with action - doing.....

- **Producing Fruit** - undeniably wrought by the Spirit
- **Growing up - Maturity** - in knowledge of who God is - my understanding of my Father, who the Son is and how the Holy Spirit operates better had grown in last 4 decades

◇ **Second Prayer of Intercession.....pray you will be....**

## 2. Vs 11 strengthen by His glorious power

### *The weighty dynamic energy of God*

Words deriving from the basic meaning of "being able, to be capable of," of "capacity" in virtue of an ability; in contrast to →which stresses the factuality of the ability, the stress falls on being able.

**I have the capacity to experience..... Grace .....which is the desire to do His will**

- all the **endurance** (come under) and **patience** (long suffering) I need in any given situation
- all the **joy** and **gratefulness** - not based on what happens but built on an understanding of the will of God and knowledge of who He is

***Shift gears....Paul goes from Interceding to making Proclamations/Declarations***

**Mention “Wild at Heart” Boot Camp - power of Agreements**

**Vs 12 - God Has Enabled us to share in the inheritance of people who live in the light**

- The word enabled means to authorize, make fit, qualify, makes competent or sufficient to enjoy
- Inheritance - idea of all the promises God has made to bless His children
- Live in the light - soon to be in contrast to darkness

**◇ Then to me Paul makes on of the most iconic statements in Colossians**

**Vs 13,14 - God Has** - He initiates and carries through the action - no human effort

- **Rescued** us **from** kingdom - jurisdiction, thralldom, tyranny of - darkness - hopelessness - no opportunity to see way out
- **Transferred** us - the verb transferred conveys the sense that God brought over **into** different realm - the Kingdom of His dear Son.  
Often used as referring to removal of people from one country to another. To different laws, rules and community.

Contrast the from Darkness into Dear/Beloved Son

- **Purchased** our freedom - redeemed - buy back and set free

**Ephesians 1:7**

***“In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace”***

- **Forgiven** us of our sin - to cancel and send away

Forgiveness, particularly when coupled with redemption as it is here, includes more than canceling the guilt of sins. Thinking of forgiveness only in a narrow judicial sense (of removing penalty) blocks an appreciation for its more comprehensive meaning. Forgiveness includes breaking the hold and power of sin (cf. 2:13–15). In John 8:11, Jesus' words to the woman, "Go your way, and from now on do not sin again," imply that she could do just that because she was forgiven. A line in a Charles Wesley hymn captures this fuller meaning of forgiveness, "He breaks the power of canceled sin."