

Paul's Prayer For The Colossians

Colossians 1:9-12

Intro:

- A. Paul was a man of love.
 - 1. He loved God.
 - 2. He loved Jesus.
 - 3. He loved the saints and he loved the church.
 - 4. He loved the truth, he loved fellow servants of the Lord.

- B. Paul prayed for those people that he loved.
 - 1. Jesus set the example.
 - 2. Sometimes pray amiss.
 - 3. A mother prays that her son will not get caught.
 - 4. A father prays that his hit and run son will not be punished.
 - 5. Sometimes we should pray that the consequences of one's sin might find them out and that this might correct them.

- C. Vs. 9a The basis of Paul's prayer.
 - 1. "For this very reason..."
 - 2. "from the first time we heard"
 - 3. "and do not cease to pray for you"

I. Paul Prayed For Them To Be Filled.

- A. "...and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will..."
 - 1. "Desire" = αιτεω = "to ask for something".
 - 2. "Filled" = πληρωω = "to fill".
 - 3. "Knowledge" = επιγνωσις = "thoroughly acquainted".
 - 4. "Will" = θελημα = "active volition".
 - 5. "Clear knowledge of what His will is" - Gspd

- B. "...in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;"
 - 1. "Wisdom" = σοφια = "mental excellency in it's highest". The capacity to apply God's truth to the day to day challenges of life.
 - 2. "Spiritual" = ηνευματικος = "influenced by the Holy Spirit" not from the world.
 - 3. "Understanding" = συνεσις = "intelligence", "insight", "the intelligent penetrating

consideration which precedes decision and action."

II. He Prayed For Them To Live Correctly.

- A. Vs. 10 "That ye might walk worthy of the Lord, unto all pleasing..."
1. "Walk" = περιπατεω = "to walk about", "to conduct one's life", "the way one lives".
 2. "Worthy" = αξιος = "of like worth". They were to match the worthy walk of Jesus with the way they walked.
 3. "Pleasing" = αρεσκεια = "desire of pleasing", "seeking to please one's benefactor".
- B. "being fruitful in every good work,"
1. "Fruitful" = καρποφορεω = "to bear fruit".
 2. "in active goodness of every kind".
- C. "and increasing in the knowledge of God."
1. "Increasing" = αυξανω = "to grow", "to grow up".
 2. "Knowledge" = επιγνωσις = "clear and exact knowledge".
 3. "and growing continually by learning more about God."

III. He Prayed For Them To Be Strengthened.

- A. Vs. 11 "Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power..."
1. "Strengthened" = δυναμω = "to make powerful", "to strengthen".
 2. "Might" = κρατος = "strength" - The inherent power which displays itself in the control of others.
 3. "Since His power is so glorious, may you be strengthened with strength of every kind." - Wey
- B. "...unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness."
1. "Patience" = υπομονη = "a remaining under".
 2. "Longsuffering" = μακροθυμew = "to be long-minded", "slow to anger, to passion".
 3. "Joyfulness" = χαρα = "delight, gladness".
 4. "For the cheerful exercise of unlimited patience and perseverance" - Ber

IV. Paul Prayed For Them To Be Thankful.

- A. Vs. 12 "Giving thanks unto the Father,"
1. "Thanks" = ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΕΩ = "to show one's self to be grateful".
 2. Paul was grateful and the Colossians should express their gratitude to God.
- B. "which made us meet..."
1. "Meet" = ΙΚΑΝΩ = "to make sufficient", "to render competent", "to make adequate".
 2. "who made you sufficient".
- C. "...to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light;"
1. "Partakers" = "ΕΙΣ" = "unto", "for the", + ΜΕΡΙΣ = "assigned part", "division", "portion".
 2. "Inheritance" = κληρος = "that which is assigned by lot", "a possession".
 3. "God has prepared us to receive our portion of the land of light."
- D. God has done this.
1. It is by His grace.
 2. It is, "Reserved in heaven for you."
 3. Eph. 1:11