

Sunday, February 9, 2020—Colossians 1:10 That Ye Might Walk Worthy

Introduction

- Last week we wrapped up our discussion of Colossians 1:9 by talking about some practical things regarding knowing and doing the will of God.
- This morning I want to move on with our exposition of Paul’s prayer here in chapter 1 by looking at some things in verse 10 regarding walking “worthy of the Lord in all pleasing.”

Colossians 1:10

- **That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;**
- **That**—signifies the purpose and the intent of what was just said in verse 9. Why does Paul “pray” and “desire” that the Colossians would be “filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding?” So “that” they “might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing.”
- **ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing**—the verb translated “might walk” is in the active voice which indicates that this is an action that is to be taken by the Colossians. Put another way, Paul’s prayer is that the Colossians choose to “walk worthy.” Walking worthy is not automatic rather it stems from the choices the Colossians are making in real time in an ongoing manner. That said, their choice to do so steams from and is rooted in their knowledge of God’s will in verse 9.
- **Walk**—is the term Paul uses throughout his epistles to talk about the proper life and conduct of believers as they progress and mature in the Christian life. The word “walk” in verse 10 occurs 30 times in 29 verses in Paul’s epistles. The underlying Greek word carries the following meanings:
 - to make one's way, progress; to make do use of opportunities Hebrew for, to live,
 - to regulate one's life
 - to conduct one's self
 - to pass one's life
- Walking worthy is a major theme of the book of Colossians.
 - Colossians 1:10
 - Colossians 2:6
 - Colossians 3:7

- Colossians 4:5
- As stated above, the believers walk is a major topic throughout Paul’s epistles.
 - Romans 6:4—“walk in newness of life”
 - Romans 8:1, 4—“walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit”
 - Romans 13:13—“Let us walk honestly”
 - II Corinthians 4:2—“not walking in craftiness”
 - II Corinthians 5:7—“We walk by faith, not by sight”
 - Galatians 5:16—“walk in the Spirit”
 - Ephesians 4:1—“walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called”
 - Ephesians 4:17—“walk not as other Gentiles walk”
 - Ephesians 5:2—“walk in love”
 - Ephesians 5:8—“walk as children of light”
 - Ephesians 5:15—“walk circumspectly”
- Colossians 1:10—we are to “walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing.” To walk “worthy” means to walk in such a way that is becoming of the new life we have received in Jesus Christ.
 - Ephesians 5:3—something that is “becoming” is suitable, proper, belonging to the character, or adapted to the circumstances. You don’t wear jeans and a t-shirt to a formal black-tie dinner party. It is not worthy attire i.e., its unbecoming of the circumstances.
 - Philippians 1:27
- Colossians 1:10—Paul’s desire is for the Colossians and by extension us to “walk” or progress through life in a manner that is worthy and becoming of who we are as saints.
- Again, notice that in the progression of the Paul’s thoughts in verses 9 and 10. The worthy walk in verse 10 stems from the “knowledge of God’s will” that the believer has already been “filled” with in the previous verse.

- **Pleasing**—in Greek the word translated “pleasing” is a noun. According to Noah Webster’s *American Dictionary of the English Language* from 1828 the noun form of the English word “pleasing” means, “the act of gratifying.”
- The worthy walk of a mid-Acts Pauline Grace Believer is the most “pleasing” and gratifying life that one can chose to live because its aim and focus is on serving others not self.
 - Romans 15:1-6
 - I Corinthians 10:33
 - Galatians 5:13-14
 - I Thessalonians 4:1
- Colossians 1:10—it pleases the Lord when we walk worthy of the high calling and vocation wherewith, we have been called.