

“Keep It Up”

Colossians 2:1-7

Central Idea: Healthy believers are not swayed by false teaching and grow in their faith.

I. Healthy Believers Encourage One Another (1-2a)

- “Struggle” - continues Paul’s athlete metaphor
 - Likely means he is wrestling in prayer for the Colossians
- Reason for Paul’s struggle:
 - That they would be completely encouraged
 - This comes from being united in love

II. Healthy Believers are Spiritually Wealthy (2b-3)

- Through Assurance of Understanding
 - This spiritual wealth is a thorough understanding of God’s truth
 - Consists of properly understanding and being confident of this truth
 - Equips the believer to deal properly with false teaching
 - Results in a fuller knowledge of Christ
- Through Knowledge of Christ
 - In Christ we find all wisdom and knowledge
 - Knowledge = genuine understanding
 - Wisdom = correct application of truth
 - He is the source of these things

III. Healthy Believers Stand Firm (4-5)

- Against False Teachings
 - Not deceived by persuasive arguments
 - Arguments that are plausible, but false
 - More reason for a sure understanding of Christ

• In Faith in Christ

- “Discipline” can describe soldiers at attention
- Stability: faith built on a solid foundation

IV. Healthy Believers Walk in Christ (6-7)

- By faith, the way Christ was received (Gal. 3:3)
- They have received the very person of Christ, who is offered through the Gospel
- Christ = Messiah, He is God
- Jesus = He is truly man
- Lord = He is sovereign over all
- Characteristics of this Walk:
 - Firmly Rooted
 - Refers back to conversion, standing firm as a tree
 - Built Up in Christ
 - Improving toward a goal, as a building under construction
 - Established in the Faith
 - Strengthened in what you have been taught
 - Overflowing with Gratitude
 - Abundantly thankful for what the Lord has done
 - Good insurance against temptation to depart

Application:

- Do I see these qualities and characteristics in my own life?
- If not: Am I abiding in Christ?
- If so: How can I continue to abide?