

“Walk Worthy”

Colossians 1:9-14

Central Idea: The believer’s goal should be to live a life that is pleasing to God.

I. The Requirements for Walking Worthy (9)

- Content of Paul’s prayer
 - Prayed because of the Colossians’ love
 - That they would be filled with the knowledge of God’s will
 - Prayed this without ceasing
 - “be filled” = to be made full or complete
 - Complete and precise knowledge of God’s will
- This knowledge is brought about by:
 - Spiritual Wisdom
 - Wisdom = knowledge applied; James 3:17
 - Spiritual Understanding
 - Helps to rightly separate truth from error
 - Not theoretical, but practical - impact how we live

II. The Characteristics of Walking Worthy (10-12a)

- Reason for the content of Paul’s prayer (10a)
 - That they walk in a manner worthy of the Lord
 - Living in a way that is pleasing and glorifying to God
 - Paul’s ambition (2 Cor. 5:9)
 - Enoch is an example of this (Gen. 5:21-24, Heb. 11:5)
- Four Characteristics of this Walk (10b-12a)
 - Bearing fruit in every good work
 - Fruit = visible evidence
 - God works through us to produce this fruit
 - Bearing fruit is a result of walking with Christ

- Growing in knowledge of God
 - We are never done growing in our knowledge of God
 - Also causes growth in our ability to bear fruit
- Gaining strength by God’s power
 - Shown in steadfastness and patience
 - Steadfastness is endurance when things are difficult
 - Perseverance
 - Patience deals primarily with other people
 - Long-suffering
- Expressing Gratitude to the Father
 - Joyfully and Consistently

III. The Reasons Walking Worthy is Possible (12b-14)

- Three causes for the believer’s gratitude:
 - Qualified us to share in the saints’ inheritance
 - The inheritance = eternal life
 - Rescued us from the domain of darkness
 - No longer under the power of sin and death (Rom. 6)
 - Transferred us to the Kingdom of Christ
 - “Transferred,” used of relocation of large groups
 - Redemption = the ransom has been paid
 - Main point of Christ’s redemption is forgiveness of sins

Application:

- Prayer is a vital important part of the Christian Life
- We must know, and grow in, God’s will to live a life pleasing to Him