

TITLE: Colossians (Lesson 2)

TEXT: Col. 1:9-14

INTRO: “Intercessory prayer is one of the great privileges of the Christian life. In Colossians 1:9-14, we find a model of intercessory prayer—how Paul prayed for the church in Colossae as they faced spiritual disruption brought about by false teachers.”

*David Jeremiah*

I. (vs. 9a) The Persistence of Paul’s Prayer

A. Epaphras’s report to Paul resulted in both prayers and an Epistle!

B. Jesus taught to us to pray persistently.

NOTE: Luke 11:5-8; 18:1-8

C. As Christians we must not only *begin* to pray, but *finish* as well.

II. (vs. 9b) The Petition of Paul’s Prayer

NOTE: Paul’s prayer really begins in vs. 3 and continues through vs. 14. Vs. 9 reveals the heart of the petition.

A. “...that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will...”

NOTE: (***Epignosis***) **knowledge**: precise and correct knowledge (*against Gnosticism*)

B. “...in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;”

NOTE: Wisdom is the practical side of Biblical knowledge.

III. (vs. 10-14) The Possibilities of Paul’s Prayer

A. “That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing,”

NOTE: Eph. 4:1; Phil. 1:27a; I Thess. 2:12

B. “being fruitful in every good work,”

1. Fruit is Character (What You Are) *Gal. 5:22-23*

2. Fruit is Conduct (What You Do) *Rom. 6:22*

3. Fruit is Conversation (What You Say) *Heb. 13:15; James 3:10*

4. Fruit is Contributions (What You Give) *Phil. 4:15-19*

5. Fruit Is Converts (Who You Win) *Prov. 11:30; Rom. 1:13*

C. “and increasing in the knowledge of God;”

D. “Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;”

NOTE: “He prays that the Christian may be such that no circumstances will defeat his strength and no human being defeat his love.”

*William Barclay*

E. “Giving thanks unto the Father,”

NOTE: Regardless of our circumstances, we can always give thanks to God.

1. He remade us. *vs. 12; 2 Cor. 5:17*

2. He rescued us. *vs. 13a*

3. He relocated us. *vs. 13b*

4. He redeemed us. *vs. 14*

CONCLUSION: “When God saves you, when He brings you into His Kingdom, He redeems everything that is true about you—past, present, and future.” *David Jeremiah*