

## Colossians – Complete in Christ Col. 2:1-10

*Thesis: To help us understand that we are complete in Christ and do not need anything else.*

### Introduction:

#### I. Being complete in Christ means that we “walk in Him” (2:6-7).

##### A. To “walk in Him” means that we have our roots in Him (2:7a).

1. Roots are the very foundation of a plant.
  - a. If the root system is damaged in any way, the plant will not survive.
  - b. The roots are where the plant receives its nutrients.
  - c. The roots are the most important part of the plant.
2. The foundation of our faith must be in Christ.
  - a. **I Cor. 3:11** - For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
  - b. **Eph. 2:19-22** - Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, {20} having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone, {21} in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, {22} in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.
  - c. **I Pet. 2:6** (quote from **Is. 28:16**) - Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, “Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.”
3. We must have our roots in Christ.

##### B. To “walk in Him” means that we are “established in the faith” (2:7b).

1. To be “established in the faith” means that we are strong in our faith.
  - a. If we have our roots in Christ, we will be established in Him.
  - b. We have to be strong in our faith.
2. To be “established in the faith” also means that we continue to grow in our faith.
  - a. If we are not growing in our faith, we are not pleasing to Him.
  - b. Also, if we are not growing in our faith, we will not be established in our faith.
  - c. If we do not gain knowledge of His word, we will lose the knowledge that we do have.

##### C. To “walk in Him” means that we abound in our faith with thanksgiving (2:7c).

1. When we “walk in Him,” we can be thankful because of the blessings that we have in Him.
2. As children of God, we are to always be thankful.
  - a. Paul tells the Christians in Colosse to be thankful.
    - 1) Col. 1:12 - giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.
    - 2) Col. 3:15 - And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.
  - b. We also read in other places that we are to be thankful.
    - 1) Ps. 100:4 - Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.
    - 2) I Thes. 5:18 - in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

### I. To be complete in Christ, we must “walk in Him.”

### II. Being complete in Christ means that we will resist false teachings (2:8).

#### A. Even at that time, false teachers were entering the church.

1. Because of this, Paul warned them about being deceived “through philosophy and empty deceit.”
  - a. These false teachers follow “the tradition of men” and “the basic principles of the world.”
  - b. While traditions can be good, they can also be destructive
    - 1) Mt. 15 – Jesus condemned the traditions of the Pharisees because their traditions went against the commands of God.
    - 2) Paul was warning the brethren about following after the traditions of men.
  - c. Following after the principles of the world are never good in the eyes of God.
    - 1) I Jn. 2:15 - Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
    - 2) Js. 4:4 - Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.
2. Paul wanted the brethren to be “established in the faith” so that they were not easily carried away by those who would “cheat [them] through philosophy and empty deceit.”

#### B. Today, we are warned about false teachers who desire to take us away from the truth.

1. Today, it no secret that there are some who want to cheat us out of salvation through their philosophy.
2. Many will justify sin through philosophy.
  - a. Homosexuality is called an alternate lifestyle.

- b. Women preachers are called equality.
- 3. We must understand that false teachers are around us.
  - a. **I Tim. 4:1-3** - Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, {2} speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, {3} forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.
  - b. **II Tim. 4:1-4** - I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: {2} Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. {3} For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; {4} and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.
  - c. **II Pet. 2:1** - But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.
- C. If we are “rooted” and “established in the faith,” we will not easily fall to these false teachers.

**I. To be complete in Christ, we must “walk in Him.”**

**II. To be complete in Christ, we must resist false teachings.**

**III. Being complete in Christ means that we only need Christ and nothing else.**

**A. It is in Christ that “all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” exist (2:3).**

- 1. We find wisdom only in Him.
- 2. We are complete only when we find the wisdom that He has for us.

**B. It is only in Christ that we can find salvation.**

- 1. **Jn. 8:24b** - if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.
- 2. **Jn. 14:6** - Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”
- 3. **Acts 4:12** - Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

**Conclusion:**

**I. To be complete in Christ, we must “walk in Him.”**

**II. To be complete in Christ, we must resist false teachings.**

**III. To be complete in Christ, we must have Him and no one else.**