

Providence, Prayer, Provision, and Path

The Supremacy and Sufficiency of Jesus

Colossians 1:9-14; Coast Pastor's Class; October 6, 2013

Paul is thankful for how God demonstrates His providence for believers. He acknowledges the problem we face, and praises how God has graciously taken care of that problem, so we can be free from the bondage we were once under.

- Mankind has a fatal problem which we cannot overcome. We are all _____, and citizens of the _____
– Colossians 1:13, Romans 3:23
- God the Father has demonstrated His _____ for us by _____ us from the _____ of darkness, and _____ us in Jesus Christ's kingdom – Colossians 1:13, Exodus 6:6-8, Psalm 107, Acts 26:12-18
- It is God the Father who has given us the _____, providing the _____ required to be His _____, to become _____ of the inheritance of the saints – Colossians 1:12, Ephesians 2:11-22
- Jesus Christ _____ to secure our release from our slavery to sin, securing our _____ – Colossians 1:14, Romans 4:7, Ephesians 1:7

Paul shows in his writings of his belief that God is supreme and sovereign over everything that takes place. God's purposes will take place, and everything that happens is part of His divine plan. This knowledge does not hinder Paul in any way from praying constantly. Paul believes that God hears his prayers, and answers those prayers. He also urges all believers to do the same.

- It is Paul's _____ for the _____ the Colossians have made in the faith, that leads him to _____ the Lord on their behalf – Colossians 1:3, 9
- Paul's prayer is that they _____ what God's will is for them. The manifestation of this knowledge is a lifestyle that _____ in 4 ways – Colossians 1:9-12
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

Questions to ask

1. What does it mean to be filled with the knowledge of God's will? –

Colossians 1:9, 15-23

- The knowledge for which Paul prays is for a _____
_____ of the revelation of Christ, and the
_____ of His revelation on them and the world
around them
- Wisdom is the ability to _____
- Understanding is taking that truth and _____
- Knowledge of the truth then doing the right thing can only come
through _____

2. How do we walk on the right path that the Lord will find pleasing? –

Colossians 1:10, Proverbs 2:12-22, Ephesians 4:1, Philippians 1:27

- Pleasing God in everything must be our _____
- Every kind of good work we do _____ the good fruit
God desires
- Our knowledge of God needs to _____

3. Why does God ask us to live in ways He must know we can never achieve with these sinful bodies? – Colossians 1:11, Ephesians 1:19,

6:10, I Peter 4:11,

- The ability to live a life pleasing to God is His own _____
- This strength God provides is His own _____
- This power God supplies His people is according to the expression
of His own _____
- God gives His power so we may have the strength to do two things:
 - _____ under very difficult circumstances
 - _____ with impossible people

God has rescued us, made us part of His family, and gave us a part of the inheritance in Jesus Christ's kingdom. Because of our new position given to us, we can confidently come to God, and ask Him for everything we will need to know God's will for us. God's will for us is that we walk in faith, hope, and love, the good works that bear good fruit. God then provides for us the unlimited power needed for this impossible task through the Holy Spirit, so we can become steadfast and patient. When we realize that all the real effort has come from God, our lives should pour out with joyful thanksgiving to Him.