

# Colossians 1:11-15

Colossians 1:10-11 – “so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;”

|                |          |          |          |          |          |           |           |          |          |       |      |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-------|------|
| 4043 [e]       | 516 [e]  | 3588 [e] | 2962 [e] | 1519 [e] | 3956 [e] | 699 [e]   | 1722 [e]  | 3956 [e] | 2041 [e] |       |      |
| peripatēsai    | axiōs    | tou      | Kyriou   | eis      | pasan    | areskeian | en        | panti    | ergō     |       |      |
| 10 περιπατήσαι | ἀξίως    | τοῦ      | Κυρίου   | :        | εἰς      | πᾶσαν     | ἀρεσκείαν | ,        | ἐν       | παντὶ | ἔργῳ |
| to walk        | worthily | of the   | Lord     |          | in       | all       | pleasing  |          | in       | every | work |
| V-ANA          | Adv      | Art-GMS  | N-GMS    | Prep     | Adj-AFS  | N-AFS     | Prep      | Adj-DNS  | N-DNS    |       |      |

Noun - Accusative Feminine Singular

|         |                      |          |             |          |           |          |          |   |
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| 18 [e]  | 2592 [e]             | 2532 [e] | 837 [e]     | 3588 [e] | 1922 [e]  | 3588 [e] | 2316 [e] |   |
| agathō  | karpophorountes      | kai      | auxanomenoi | tē       | epignōsei | tou      | Theou    |   |
| ἀγαθῷ   | , καρποφοροῦντες     | καὶ      | αὐξανόμενοι | τῇ       | ἐπιγνώσει | τοῦ      | Θεοῦ     | , |
| good    | bringing forth fruit | and      | growing     | in the   | knowledge | -        | of God   |   |
| Adj-DNS | V-PPA-NMP            | Conj     | V-PPM/P-NMP | Art-DFS  | N-DFS     | Art-GMS  | N-GMS    |   |

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| 1722 [e] | 3956 [e] | 1411 [e] | 1412 [e]           | 2596 [e]     | 3588 [e] | 2904 [e] | 3588 [e] | 1391 [e] | 846 [e]   |
| en       | pasē     | dynamei  | dynamoumenoi       | kata         | to       | kratos   | tēs      | doxēs    | autou     |
| 11 ἐν    | πάσῃ     | δυνάμει  | δυναμούμενοι       | κατὰ         | τὸ       | κράτος   | τῆς      | δόξης    | αὐτοῦ     |
| with     | all      | power    | being strengthened | according to | the      | might    | -        | glorious | of Him    |
| Prep     | Adj-DFS  | N-DFS    | V-PPM/P-NMP        | Prep         | Art-ANS  | N-ANS    | Art-GFS  | N-GFS    | PPro-GM3S |

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| 1519 [e] | 3956 [e] | 5281 [e]  | 2532 [e] | 3115 [e]     | 3326 [e] | 5479 [e] |   |
| eis      | pasan    | hypomonēn | kai      | makrothymian | meta     | charas   |   |
| εἰς      | πᾶσαν    | ὑπομονὴν  | καὶ      | μακροθυμίαν  | μετὰ     | χαρᾶς    | , |
| unto     | all      | endurance | and      | patience     | with     | joy      |   |
| Prep     | Adj-AFS  | N-AFS     | Conj     | N-AFS        | Prep     | N-GFS    |   |

1. The goal of this knowledge and revelation of the wisdom of God revealed by the Holy Spirit is:
  - a. “that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way!”
  - b. And, to please the Lord we must (“well done” Matthew 25:23):
    - i. Bear fruit –
      1. John 15:1-27 – “...I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing....”(John 15:5). This includes evangelism, personal growth, spiritual gift development, etc.
      2. Daniel 12:3 – “Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.”
    - ii. Do good works –

1. Ephesians 2:10 – “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”
  2. Titus 2:14 – “And purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.””
- iii. Grow in the knowledge of God –
1. God’s will above is directly related to your growth in the Christian experience.
  2. Growth and fruit are not just works and good deeds. Your own relationship with the Lord and understanding of the Lord is crucial for growth.
- iv. Be empowered by God –
1. tap into God’s strength, not human works.
  2. God desires this transformation.
  3. Tin man story by C.S. Lewis –
    - a. “Did you ever think, when you were a child, what fun it would be if your toys could come to life? Well suppose you could really have brought them to life. Imagine turning a tin soldier into a real little man. It would involve turning the tin into flesh. And suppose the tin soldier did not like it. He is not interested in flesh; all he sees is that the tin is being spoilt. He thinks you are killing him. He will do everything he can to prevent you. He will not be made into a man if he can help it. What you have done about that tin soldier I do not know. But what God did about us was this: The Second Person in God, the Son, became human Himself... And because the whole difficulty for us is that the natural life has to be, in a sense, "killed," He chose an earthly career which involved the killing of His human desires at every turn - poverty, misunderstanding from His own family, betrayal by one of His intimate friends, being jeered at and manhandled by the police, and execution by torture. And then, after being thus killed - killed every day in a sense - the human creature in Him, because it was united to the divine Son, came to life again. The Man in Christ rose again: not only the God. That is the whole point, for the first time we saw a real man. One tin soldier - real tin, just like the rest - had come fully and splendidly alive.”

- C.S. Lewis Mere Christianity
- v. Endure – *hypomone*, to endure beyond what is normal, everyone else has given up. Continuance. Power to persevere. Opposite of being a coward or living in despondence. The ability to finish the assignment (or, life) strong.
- vi. Patience – *makrothyme*, is towards others. It is your emotional state. Remain calm in the presence of misfortune, irritation, aggravation. It is the opposite of wrath or a spirit of revenge. It does not retaliate, but continues even-tempered.
- vii. “Joy” or “Joyfully” – *meta charas* = “with joy” – In the NT joy is associated with hardship and suffering.

1:12 – “giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.”

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| 2168 [e]                 | 3588 [e] | 3962 [e] | 3588 [e]  | 2427 [e]         | 4771 [e] | 1519 [e] |
| eucharistountes          | tō       | Patri    | tō        | hikanōsanti      | hymas    | eis      |
| <b>12</b> εὐχαριστοῦντες | τῷ       | Πατρὶ    | , τῷ      | ἱκανώσαντι       | ὑμᾶς     | εἰς      |
| giving thanks            | to the   | Father   | the [One] | having qualified | you      | for      |
| V-PPA-NMP                | Art-DMS  | N-DMS    | Art-DMS   | V-APA-DMS        | PPro-A2P | Prep     |

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| 3588 [e] | 3310 [e] | 3588 [e] | 2819 [e]    | 3588 [e] | 40 [e]  | 1722 [e] | 3588 [e] | 5457 [e] |
| tēn      | merida   | tou      | klērou      | tōn      | hagiōn  | en       | tō       | phōti    |
| τὴν      | μερίδα   | τοῦ      | κλήρου      | τῶν      | ἀγίων   | ἐν       | τῷ       | φωτί ,   |
| the      | share    | of the   | inheritance | of the   | saints  | in       | the      | light    |
| Art-AFS  | N-AFS    | Art-GMS  | N-GMS       | Art-GMP  | Adj-GMP | Prep     | Art-DNS  | N-DNS    |

1. “Thanks” (#5 of the Christian virtues listed: (fruit/good work, knowledge of God, endurance, patience, thanks)
2. Qualified - *hikanosanti* – is the thought of making you competent or sufficient where before you were unable to receive, manage earn or deserve what is listed here.
  - a. We were unable to inherit the estate God has planned for us until we were changed in his Son.
  - b. The word is aorist which points back to the point of salvation. It is not something we developed or earned. It was given to us when we placed faith in Christ. This is not a process, but instantaneous act.
3. Qualified us for:
  - a. Inheritance –
    - i. This is the Kingdom of God’s equivalent of Israel receiving their inheritance in the Land when Joshua led them in the Old Testament
    - ii. This inheritance belongs to the people of God in Christ.
  - b. With Holy people;
  - c. In Kingdom of light
    - i. This is not only a future “kingdom”, but as will be made clear in the next verses the entrance into the “kingdom of light” has already taken place.
    - ii. The kingdom of light will be manifest to all the natural world at some point in the future, but we are participating in that kingdom of light today in our daily lives, activities, worldview, families, etc.

1:13 – “He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,”

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| 3739 [e]   | 4506 [e]      | 1473 [e] | 1537 [e] | 3588 [e] | 1849 [e] | 3588 [e] | 4655 [e]    | 2532 [e] |
| hos        | errysato      | hēmas    | ek       | tēs      | exousias | tou      | skotous     | kai      |
| 13 ὅς      | ἐρρύσατο      | ἡμᾶς     | ἐκ       | τῆς      | ἐξουσίας | τοῦ      | σκοτούς     | καὶ      |
| who        | has delivered | us       | from     | the      | dominion | -        | of darkness | and      |
| RelPro-NMS | V-AIM-3S      | PPro-A1P | Prep     | Art-GFS  | N-GFS    | Art-GNS  | N-GNS       | Conj     |

|                  |          |          |           |          |          |          |         |           |
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| 3179 [e]         | 1519 [e] | 3588 [e] | 932 [e]   | 3588 [e] | 5207 [e] | 3588 [e] | 26 [e]  | 846 [e]   |
| metestēsen       | eis      | tēn      | basileian | tou      | Huiou    | tēs      | agapēs  | autou     |
| μετέστησεν       | εἰς      | τὴν      | βασιλείαν | τοῦ      | Υἱοῦ     | τῆς      | ἀγάπης  | αὐτοῦ ,   |
| transferred [us] | into     | the      | kingdom   | of the   | Son      | -        | beloved | of Him    |
| V-AIA-3S         | Prep     | Art-AFS  | N-AFS     | Art-GMS  | N-GMS    | Art-GFS  | N-GFS   | PPro-GM3S |

1. “Rescued” or “Delivered” – *errysato* – means to liberate, save or deliver someone from something or someone.
2. In this case we were “liberated”, “rescued” or “delivered” from kingdom of darkness
3. The Son is mentioned...We were rescued into the Kingdom of the Son or set free and liberated into the Kingdom of the Son.
4. In Luke 22:53 Jesus uses the same phrase for the “dominion of darkness” (*exousias tou skotous*)

LUKE 22:53

|          |          |           |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |                     |          |          |
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| 2596 [e] | 2250 [e] | 1510 [e]  | 1473 [e] | 3326 [e] | 4771 [e] | 1722 [e] | 3588 [e] | 2411 [e] | 3756 [e] | 1614 [e]            | 3588 [e] | 5495 [e] |
| kath’    | hēmeran  | ontos     | mou      | meth’    | hymōn    | en       | tō       | hierō    | ouk      | exeteinate          | tas      | cheiras  |
| 53 καθ’  | ἡμέραν   | ὄντος     | μου      | μεθ’     | ὑμῶν     | ἐν       | τῷ       | ἱερῷ ,   | οὐκ      | ἐξετείνετε          | τὰς      | χεῖρας   |
| Every    | day      | being     | of Me    | with     | you      | in       | the      | temple   | not      | did you stretch out | the      | hands    |
| Prep     | N-AFS    | V-PPA-GMS | PPro-G1S | Prep     | PPro-G2P | Prep     | Art-DNS  | N-DNS    | Adv      | V-AIA-2P            | Art-AFP  | N-AFP    |

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| 1909 [e] | 1473 [e] | 235 [e] | 3778 [e] | 1510 [e] | 4771 [e] | 3588 [e] | 5610 [e] | 2532 [e] | 3588 [e] | 1849 [e] | 3588 [e] | 4655 [e]  |
| ep’      | eme      | all’    | hautē    | estin    | hymōn    | hē       | hōra     | kai      | hē       | exousia  | tou      | skotous   |
| ἐπ’      | ἐμέ ;    | ἀλλ’    | αὕτη     | ἐστὶν    | ὑμῶν     | ἡ        | ώρα ,    | καὶ      | ἡ        | ἐξουσία  | τοῦ      | σκοτούς . |
| against  | Me       | but     | this     | is       | of you   | the      | hour     | and      | the      | power    | of the   | darkness  |
| Prep     | PPro-A1S | Conj    | DPro-NFS | V-PIA-3S | PPro-G2P | Art-NFS  | N-NFS    | Conj     | Art-NFS  | N-NFS    | Art-GNS  | N-GNS     |

5. “Transferred” or “Brought” – *metestesēn* – used in Greek literature to refer to removing people from one country and settling them as colonist and citizens in another country.
  - a. Remember, this is how the Jews originally arrived in Colossae from Babylonia. There were hundreds of Jewish families relocated here from Mesopotamia by Antiochus the Great around 200 BC.
  - b. This is not a reference to a time in the future, but it has already taken place.
  - c. This is not a territory or a land, it is the kingdom of God which rules overall in Reality and in Light. The Darkness is a place of rebellion against Reality, Truth, Light and the Creator.
6. “the Son beloved of Him” is literally “the Son of his love”. We are now in that Trinitarian love. Part of Christ. Part of the kingdom. Heirs in the Royal Family of God.

1:14 – “in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

|    |          |            |          |          |             |   |          |             |          |            |
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|    | 1722 [e] | 3739 [e]   | 2192 [e] | 3588 [e] | 629 [e]     |   | 3588 [e] | 859 [e]     | 3588 [e] | 266 [e]    |
|    | en       | hō         | echomen  | tēn      | apolytrōsin |   | tēn      | aphesin     | tōn      | hamartiōn  |
| 14 | ἐν       | ᾧ          | ἔχομεν   | τὴν      | ἀπολύτρωσιν | , | τὴν      | ἄφεσιν      | τῶν      | ἁμαρτιῶν . |
|    | in       | whom       | we have  | -        | redemption  |   | the      | forgiveness | -        | of sins    |
|    | Prep     | RelPro-DMS | V-PIA-1P | Art-AFS  | N-AFS       |   | Art-AFS  | N-AFS       | Art-GFP  | N-GFP      |

1. It is in this Son that we have:
  - a. redemption which means we have been purchased
  - b. forgiveness which means our fellowship is restored
2. We have been placed in a power dynamo and spiritual energy generator

The long prayer/thought/sentence that began in 1:9 continues into verse 1:15.

Thanks for the kingdom in 1:12 continues as the kingdom is described beginning in 1:15

**1:15-20** – This sends Paul off on one of the greatest NT Christological passages. There are two parts of this Christological poem/hymn:

1. He is the image of the invisible God
2. He is the head of the body, the church

1:15 – “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.”

|    |            |          |             |          |          |          |           |                 |          |           |
|----|------------|----------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------------|----------|-----------|
|    | 3739 [e]   | 1510 [e] | 1504 [e]    | 3588 [e] | 2316 [e] | 3588 [e] | 517 [e]   | 4416 [e]        | 3956 [e] | 2937 [e]  |
|    | Hos        | estin    | eikōn       | tou      | Theou    | tou      | aoratou   | prōtotokos      | pasēs    | ktiseōs   |
| 15 | Ὁς         | ἐστίν    | εἰκὼν       | τοῦ      | θεοῦ     | τοῦ      | ἀοράτου   | , πρωτότοκος    | πάσης    | κτίσεως , |
|    | [He]       | is       | [the] image | of the   | God      | -        | invisible | [the] firstborn | over all | creation  |
|    | RelPro-NMS | V-PIA-3S | N-NFS       | Art-GMS  | N-GMS    | Art-GMS  | Adj-GMS   | Adj-NMS         | Adj-GFS  | N-GFS     |

1. *eikon* – “**the image**” has two basic meanings that sent the word into two directions:
  - a. Representation, a symbol of the object pictured
  - b. Manifestation, more than a symbol, but instead an appearance
2. Here *eikon* means the invisible, timeless nature and character of god perfectly revealed, visible, understood. Also,
  - a. John 1:18
  - b. 2 Cor. 4:4, 6
  - c. Hebrew 1:3
3. *eikon* is being formed in people of Christ by indwelling Spirit –
  - a. 2 Cor.3:18
  - b. Col. 3:10
  - c. Eph. 4:24
4. “**firstborn**” is *prototokos* and is used 130 times in LXX in genealogies and historical narratives to indicate priority and sovereignty of rank.
  - a. “Firstborn” indicates a special place in the father’s family covenant.
  - b. “Firstborn” is priority of rank.
  - c. Psalm 89:27 “make him my firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.”
  - d. Proverbs 8 - “Wisdom of God is given this same place as Jesus in Proverbs 8

**1:16 – “For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.”**

**1:17 – “And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”**

**1:18 – “And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.”**

**1:19 – “For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,”**

**1:20 – “and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”**

**1:21-23** – Paul compares what we now have to what we did have.

1. Paul warns the Colossians the danger of losing this spiritual dynamo.
2. He is not warning of losing their salvation.

**1:24** – Paul begins to discuss his ministry.