

Paul's Prayers 4 - Colossians

- *For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; 12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. Col. 1:9-13*

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do not cease to pray for you, and to ask

1. *you may be **filled with the knowledge of His will***
2. *in all **wisdom** and **spiritual understanding**;*
3. *10 that you may **walk worthy of the Lord,***
4. ***fully pleasing Him,***
5. *being **fruitful in every good work***
6. *and **increasing in the knowledge of God**;*
7. *11 **strengthened with all might,***
8. *according to His glorious power,*
9. *for **all patience** and **longsuffering** with **joy**;*
- 12 ***giving thanks to the Father***
who has qualified us to be partakers
of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

To Pray for You and Ask that You

- *may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;*
- 1. They needed to Know God's Will
- 2. With all wisdom
- 3. With all spiritual understanding
- 4. We must understand why

Filled with Knowledge of His Will

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but **he who does the will of My Father in heaven.** Mt. 7:21

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. 16 For all that is in the world — the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life — is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but **he who does the will of God abides forever.** 1Jn 2:15-

Filled with Knowledge of His Will

- Why is this so important?
- It is the way to break the power of sin.
- When we see things as God says they are.
- Not through the lens of lust of flesh/eye or pride.
- When we understand God's will in these matters
- God's will is given out of love for our best interest
- Satan seeks to lead us to see things to our destruction
- It was God's will that Adam and Eve live forever.
- Satan lied & murdered using lusts and pride. Jn 8:44
- *for we are not ignorant of his devices. 2Cor 2:11*
- *able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Eph 6:11*

The Knowledge of His Will

- *for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. 11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. 13 But **when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ...15 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ... 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.** Eph. 5:8-17*
- *The wise man's eyes are in his head, and the fool walketh in darkness: Eccl 2:14*
- *A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, But the simple pass on and are punished. Pr. 22:3*

In all Spiritual Wisdom & Understanding

- *5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, Jas. 1:5-6*
- *Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. ... but the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. 18 Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. Jas. 3:13-18*

In all Spiritual Wisdom & Understanding

- Sometimes we just have to start over.
- Forget what we think we know by our will
- Learn what God's will is so we have true knowledge
- *Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. 1Cor 3:18-19*

To Walk Worthy of the Lord

- The reason we must be filled with God's Will
- In all spiritual wisdom and understanding
- *that you may walk worthy of the Lord,*
- *fully pleasing Him,*
- *being fruitful in every good work*
- *and increasing in the knowledge of God;*

axios properly, “bringing up the other beam of the scales,”
“bringing into equilibrium, two distinct magnitudes are equal
or equivalent...” (Kittel, TDTNT, NT:514)



Fully Pleasing Him

- *9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 11 Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences. 2 Cor 5:9-11*
- Fully pleasing Him will be the most important outcome of our life when we stand before Him.
- *“Well done good and faithful servant!”*

Bearing Fruit in Every Good Work

- Two very important figures for a Christian are both fulfilled in this progression:
- *By this my Father is glorified, that **you bear much fruit** and so prove to be my disciples. Jn. 15:8-9*
- *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **for good works**, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Eph. 2:10*
- When we know God's will;
- in wisdom and understanding...
- 1. We can walk worthy of the Lord
- 2. We can be fully pleasing to Him.
- 3. We can bear fruit in every good work.

Summing up the Prayer

- To **know** the will of God leads to **doing** the will of God
- **Doing** the will of God leads to **being worthy** of the Lord
- **Being worthy** of the Lord leads to being **pleasing to him**,
- being **pleasing to him** will lead us to **bear fruit in every good work.**
- **Bearing Fruit** leads to **increasing in our knowledge about Him.**

Strengthened with all Power(*dunamoo*)

- At this point we may feel overwhelmed. How can we do all this?
- Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord** and in **the power of His might**. Eph. 6:10-11
- For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when **you received the word of God** which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, **which also effectively works in you who believe**. 1 Th. 2:13-14

Strengthened with all Power(*dunamoo*)

- *For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, 11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. Isa 55:10-11*

According to the Might of His Glory

- *Now unto him that is **able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think**, according to the power that works in us, Eph. 3:20*
- *the **exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe**, according to the working of His mighty power Eph. 1:19*
- *I can do all things in him that strengthens me. Phil. 4:13*