



The Flow of Colossians

10/23/22

I. Prayer

1:3 We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

1:9 For this reason also, since the day we heard *of it*, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will ...

II. Gospel

1:13 For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ And He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation.

¹⁶ For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have been created by Him and for Him.

¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

¹⁸ He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything.

¹⁹ For it was the *Father's* good pleasure for all the fulness to dwell in Him,

²⁰ and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, *I say*, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

²¹ And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, *engaged* in evil deeds,

²² yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach--

²³ if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister.

III. Proclamation

1:24 Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body (which is the church) in filling up that which is lacking in Christ's afflictions.

1:28 And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ.

²⁹ And for this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.

2:1 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have on your behalf, and for those who are at Laodicea, and for all those who have not personally seen my face,

IV. Warnings

2:4 I say this in order that no one may delude you with persuasive argument.

2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.

⁹ For in Him all the fulness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

¹⁰ and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority;

¹¹ and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;

¹² having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

¹³ And when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,
¹⁴ having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us *and* which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.
¹⁵ When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

2:16 Therefore let no one act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day--

¹⁷ things which are a *mere* shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ.

2:18 Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on *visions* he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind,

¹⁹ and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

V. Lifestyle

3:1 If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

² Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

³ For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

⁴ When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

⁵ Therefore

consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

⁶ For it is on account of these things that the wrath of God will come,

⁷ and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.

⁸ But now you also,

put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* abusive speech from your mouth.

⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices,

¹⁰ and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him

¹¹ -- *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

¹² And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved,

put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;

¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

¹⁴ And beyond all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

¹⁵ And

let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed,

do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

¹⁸ Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives, and do not be embittered against them.

²⁰ Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord.

²¹ Fathers, do not exasperate your children, that they may not lose heart.

²² Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who *merely* please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

²³ Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men;

²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

²⁵ For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality.

4:1 Masters, grant to your slaves justice and fairness, knowing that you too have a Master in heaven.

² Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with *an attitude of* thanksgiving;

³ praying at the same time for us as well, that God may open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned;

⁴ in order that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.

⁵ Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.

⁶ Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, *as it were*, with salt, so that you may know how you should respond to each person.

VI. Teammates

4:7 As to all my affairs, Tychicus, *our* beloved brother and faithful servant and fellow bond-servant in the Lord, will bring you information.

⁸ For I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know *about* our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts;

⁹ and with him Onesimus, *our* faithful and beloved brother, who is one of your *number*. They will inform you about the whole situation here.

All scripture is from the NASV.