Colossians 1:9–12 9/8/2024 AM

MIND YOUR WALK

INTRODUCTION

What does your head have to do with your feet?

Walking starts with your head, not with your feet.

In Colossians 1:9-12 we will see 2 elements of Paul's prayer for the Colossians that will help us better understand our walk with Christ.

- 1. The Priority of His Prayer: A Mind Filled with Christ (9)
- 2. The Purpose of His Prayer: A Conduct Worthy of Christ (10–12)

THE PRIORITY OF HIS PRAYER: A MIND FILLED WITH CHRIST (9)

"for this reason...we have not ceased to pray...and to ask"

Epaphras's report Unceasing prayer

"that you may be filled with the knowledge..."

Not just "know" but "be filled with the knowledge" = a controlling principle.

"of His will"

More than just particular events and decisions in life (cf. Ephesians 1:5, 9). God's will is not mysterious but accessible.

"in all spiritual wisdom and understanding"

Wisdom = the ability to live correctly in God's created world. Understanding = perception, discernment, **comprehension**.

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Implications

THE PURPOSE OF HIS PRAYER: A CONDUCT WORTHY OF CHRIST (10–12)

"so that you will walk"

Relationship between mind and conduct

"in a manner worthy of the Lord" = "to please *Him* in all respects (cf. Romans 15:1–3)

"bearing fruit in every good work"

"increasing in the knowledge of God"

"strengthened with all power"

God requires excellence, but provides instruction.

God requires excellence, but provides examples.

God requires excellence, but provides mercy.

God requires excellence, but provides spiritual power.

"joyously giving thanks to the Father"

"qualified"

"inheritance"

CONCLUSION

Are you suffering from "spiritual paralysis"? If you are, neither physical therapy, nor crutches, nor wheel-chair, not even new legs or new feet will solve the problem.

Your problem is not your feet, but your head. You are not walking in a manner worthy of Christ, because your mind is devoid of Christ.

Galatians 2:20