

Walking in Christ: Living like Jesus (Part Two)

Colossians 2:6-7

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Introduction:

Walking is such an amazing thing...good for us physically... emotionally....and spiritually.

Our Spiritual Walk

- Rom. 6:4 "Christ was raised from the dead...so we too might walk in newness of life."
- 2 Cor. 5:7 "we walk by faith, not by sight..."
- Gal. 5:25 "If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. (cf. Gal 5:16)
- Eph. 2:10 "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works...that we should walk in them."
- Eph. 4:1 "I...entreat you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called..."
- Eph. 4:17 "...walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind..."
- Eph. 5:2 "...walk in love, just as Christ also loved you..."
- Eph. 5:8 "...walk as children of light..."
- Eph. 5:15 "Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise..."
- Phil. 3:17 "Brethren...observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us."
- Col. 1:10 "walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects..."
- Col. 2:6 "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him..."
- 1 Thess. 2:12 "walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory."
- 1 John 1:6 "If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth..."
- 1 John 1:7 "walk in the light as He Himself is in the light..."
- 1 John 2:6 "the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked."
- 2 John 1:6 "And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments."
- 3 John 1:4 "I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth."

Our Text:

Colossians 2:6-7 "Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude."

Review of Part One

I. The Beginning of the Walk

Colossians 2:6 "Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord..."

- #1. We must receive Him as the fully divine "Christ."
- #2. We must accept Him as the fully human "Jesus."
- #3. We must acknowledge Christ Jesus as the absolute and sovereign "Lord."

To deny any of these is to NOT be saved!

II. The Command to Walk

Colossians 2:6 "...so walk in Him..."

Walking in Christ...

- Requires a continuing lifestyle that imitates Jesus Christ
- Requires an on-going lifestyle that is continually asking the question: "What would Jesus do?"
- Requires a step-by-step journey into Christ-like behavior.

Walking Through the Three Stages of Maturity (Based on 1 John 2:12-24)

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|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Stage #1. | Walking like a Child in the Faith |
| Stage #2. | Walking like a Young Man in the Faith |
| Stage #3. | Walking like a Father in the Faith |

Now in Part Two

III. The Power to Walk

Colossians 2:7 "...(walk in Him) having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude."

A. God's Part in Our Walk

1. God firmly rooted us in Christ

"...having been firmly rooted..." (Colossians 2:7)

Romans 8:28-39 By the grace and mercy of God, we were • called • foreknown • predestined • justified • glorified • uncondemned • made inseparable from the love of God • made overwhelming conquerors. cf. John 10; Eph. 1:13

Almighty God has firmly rooted us in Christ and absolutely nothing can ever uproot us!

2. God continually builds us up in Christ

"... now being built up in Him..." (Colossians 2:7)

"...the Lord upholds the righteous" (Psalm 37:17)

3. God continually establishes us in the Faith

Colossians 2:7 "... and established in your faith..."

Colossians 2:7 "...just as you were instructed..."

Regarding His instructions in the Word of God: The Bible

"...which is able to build you up." (Acts 20:32)

If you are not growing...

1 Corinthians 3:1-3 "And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ. I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, for you are still fleshly..."

Hebrews 5:11-14 "Concerning him we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil."

B. Our Part in Our Walk

Putting Colossians 2:7 all together...

- We are to let our roots grow down into Him...
- We are to let our lives be built on Him...
- Then our faith will grow strong in the truth of the Word of God we are taught...
- As a result we will be "...overflowing with gratitude." (Colossians 2:7)

The Fruit of Gratitude

- Gratitude for the growth in our lives
- Gratitude for God's sustaining power
- Gratitude for the Christ-likeness that He is producing

Conclusion:

It will take endurance to walk in Christ — for a lifetime.

"The journey of 1,000 miles begins with the first step."