

God's Intentions for Our Life

Col 1:9-14 NIV and Selected Verses

Aug 9, 2015

"9 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, 10 so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, 11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, 12 and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. 13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Col 1:9-14 NIV

"7 You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, 8 and who also told us of your love in the Spirit." Col 1:7-8 NIV

I. Three Observations:

1. Paul was a man of prayer.

"9 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you..." Col 1:9a NIV

2. He didn't just pray for those in trouble but for all.

"3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people..." Col 1:3-4 NIV

"9 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you." Col 1:9a NIV

3. His prayer is beyond material needs but for their spiritual well-being.

II. Two Prayers of Paul:

1. The will of God dominate our life every day and in every way.

"9 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives," Col 1:9 NIV

"17 Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own." John 7:17 NIV

2. There is evidence in my life of being in God's will.

"10 so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord..." Col 1:10a NIV

"13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Col 1:14-14 NIV

What are some changes that Paul is talking about here?

a) We desire to please God.

"10 so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way..." Col 1:10a-b NIV

b) We become engaged and productive in the Lord's work.

"10 so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work,..." Col 1:10a-c NIV

"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 NIV

c) We grow in relationship with God.

"10 so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God," Col 1:10 NIV

d) We are strengthened to endure.

"11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience," Col 1:11 NIV

e) We become people of praise.

"12 and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light." Col 1:12 NIV

"13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Col 1:14-14 NIV

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