

Week 05
030/335

Transforming Daily
“... you are complete in Him ...”
Colossians 2:10

There isn't any better encouragement than to know that one lacks nothing. When the pantry is full, no illness prevails, all bills are paid, and families are near and dear, all is right in the world. However, in this world that doesn't last very long if it exists at all. Paul's encouragement has little to do with this world except to tell the hearers that even as they stand now bound in earthly flesh, and troubled with the limitations thereof, in Christ, they lack nothing. Indeed, through the person and presence of Jesus Christ, the believer is complete.

The challenge behind knowing one is complete in Christ is living it out. It's one thing to know that there will be no more pain and sorrow in heaven, and that God will wipe away all of our tears in heaven, but how does that translate for the present day believer who is going through adversity, trials, and tribulation here on earth? How does it translate for those whose pantries aren't full, those who are not free from physical illness, those facing financial difficulties, and for those whose families aren't near and dear to them?

The oversimplified and biblical answer is faith. Not the “prosperity gospel,” “name it claim it, blab it grab it” demonstration of what *they* call faith, but Hebrews 11:1 faith. That's what Paul was trying to muster up inside of the disciples who were facing the false teachings of the religious leaders in Colosse, faith. The false teachers were trying to undermine the belief system and confidence of the Christians of the Colossian church.

The threat of false teachings remains for the believers of the 21st century (I just referenced two false teachings, “prosperity gospel” and “name it claim it, blab it grab it” faith). The threat might even be more prevalent and intensified today than it was in the days of the early church. It seems that more people today look to creature comforts and tangible holdings for proof of success than ever before. Equally, more people seem to be looking to self rather than God for sustained physical provisions and protection. Spiritual endeavors seem to be focused on the human mind, superstitions, and the Occult, rather than focused on, and devoted to, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit upon Whom this country's belief system was founded.

Who do you rely upon for life's provisions and protection? Are you presently facing adversity because of you faith? Do you need a word of encouragement? For those of you in Christ, here is your encouragement straight from the Bible, “You are complete in Him.”