



Sunday, December 9, 2018

**A QUIET COMMITMENT:**

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

**I. The WEALTH of the Believer (1:1-3:21)**

**A. The Christian and His RICHES (1:1-23)**

1. Paul’s PRAISE of God (1:3-14)
2. Paul’s PRAYER to God (1:15-23)

Paul’s *prayer* is in light of his *praise*. The “*spiritual blessings*” contained in his hymn of praise are of such transcendent truths that he feels the need to pray for the recipients of these blessings. He prays for their understanding—that they would be able to comprehend what they have in Christ.

- a. The PASSION of His Prayer (15-16)
- b. The PURPOSE of His Prayer—ILLUMINATION (17-18a)

He understood that God opens the eyes of our understanding and that we need to humble ourselves and pray to be “enlightened”—for illumination— being dependent upon the Lord for understanding.

- c. The PETITION of His Prayer (17-23)
  - i. KNOWING the PERSON of Christ (17b)
  - ii. KNOWING our POSITION in Christ (18)
  - iii. KNOWING the POWER of Christ (19-20)

#### iv. KNOWING the PREEMINENCE of Christ (21-23)

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Psalm 8:1 O LORD our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth! Who hast set Thy glory above the heavens.

Psalm 113:1-4 Praise ye the LORD. Praise, O ye servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD. **2** Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. **3** From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD'S name *is* to be praised. **4** The LORD *is* high above all nations, *and* His glory above the heavens.

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##### a) As Head of CREATION (21)

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Colossians 2:10 And ye are complete in Him, which is the head of all principality and power:

He is "*far above all*" kings; "*far above all*" gods; "*far above all*" earthly rulers; "*far above all*" spiritual powers.

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1 Peter 3:22 Who [*Jesus Christ*] is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto Him.

Colossians 1:16-17 For by Him [*Christ*] were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: **17** And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.

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Hebrews 1:3 Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

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**Romans 8:38-39** For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, **39** Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in **Christ Jesus** our **Lord**.

b) As Head of the **CHURCH** (22-23)

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**Colossians 1:18** And **He** [*Christ*] is the head of the body, the church: **Who** is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all *things* **He** might have the preeminence.

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**John 15:4** Abide in **Me**, and **I** in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in **Me**.

Our relationship with Christ as the Head is a living connection in which He has supreme authority. We are to bow in submission to Him.

**John 15:5** **I AM** the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in **Me**, and **I** in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without **Me** ye can do nothing.

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Christ has been exalted to preeminence. He has been put in “first place.” The question remains, “Does He have first place in your life?”



Our **WORTHY WALK** is the process of understanding the Holy Spirit’s ministry of **ILLUMINATION** that enables us to “*behold wondrous things*” from God’s most precious Word. Through **ILLUMINATION** we better understand the **PERSON** of Christ, our **POSITION** in Him as well as His **POWER** and **PREEMINENCE**.

**What is my next step?** Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

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## What Is My Next Step?

**Hearing** — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

**Doing** — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Text: \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (***Put OFF SIN***)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
  - a. What is He like?
  - b. What does He like?
  - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
  - a. What command to obey?
  - b. What promise to claim?
  - c. What principle to apply (*If I do \_\_\_\_\_, then God will do \_\_\_\_\_*)?
  - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (***Renew your mind***)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (***Put ON CHRIST***)
  - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
  - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
  - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: Supremely love GOD,  
Sacrificially love others  
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!