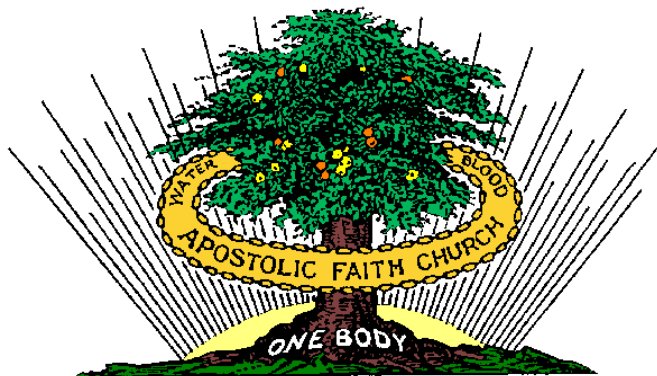


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Walking In Divine Wisdom, Revelation Knowledge And Spiritual Understanding

“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him” — Ephesians 1:17 (KJV)

The life of a Christian is a journey of continual growth in Christ. Salvation is not the end of our spiritual experience; it is the beginning of a life in which we grow in faith, increase in the knowledge of God, walk in His wisdom, and develop spiritual understanding.

Apostle Paul's prayer for the believers at Colosse provides a powerful picture of this progression. He rejoiced in their faith in Christ Jesus and their love toward all the saints, but he did not regard these as the end of their spiritual development. He prayed that they would be **“filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding”** (Colossians 1:9).

Faith and love are fundamental to our Christian standing. Faith gives birth to our new life in Christ, while love demonstrates the life of Christ working in us. Yet God desires that our faith should continually increase through the revelation of His Word and that our love and actions should be ruled by divine wisdom and anchored in spiritual understanding.

The believer is therefore called to grow from faith to faith, knowledge to knowledge, strength to strength, and glory to glory, becoming increasingly conformed to Christ and increasingly effective in the work of the Gospel. For through the Gospel, the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith” (Roman 1:17).

1. Faith and Love: The Foundation of Our Christian Standing

Apostle Paul begins his thanksgiving by acknowledging the faith and love of the Colossian believers:

“Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints” (Colossians 1:4)

Faith in Christ and love for the saints are essential marks of the life of a believer. Through Faith in the finished works of Christ on the Cross, a believer receives Salvation, and depends upon His Word. Love causes us to demonstrate the character of Christ toward others.

Faith and love are therefore not merely religious concepts; they are foundational to our relationship with God our Father and His people – the saints.

However, the Christian must not remain at the level at which he or she first encountered Christ. The same faith that brings us to Christ must continue to grow. The same love that begins in our hearts must become increasingly mature, wise and fruitful.

Therefore, in his prayer, Apostle Paul desires that the Colossians would go further some steps further, and says:

“For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding” (Colossians 1:9). This is God's desire for every believer: to be filled with the knowledge of His will.

2. We Must Increase in the Knowledge of God's Will

One of the great dangers facing the believer is spiritual stagnation. We cannot effectively walk with God in His Divine Wisdom while remaining ignorant of His Word, His will and His purposes. The Lord declares in Hosea 4:6 “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge”.

Knowledge in this context is not merely intellectual information. It is the Knowledge of God, His character, His Word, His will and His purposes. There is a difference between knowing about God and knowing God.

God wants His people to grow in Revelation Knowledge. He wants us to Understand His Word, recognize His purposes, discern His will and know Christ more deeply. Paul's prayer in Colossians 1:9 reveals three connected dimensions:

Knowledge of God's will – Spiritual Understanding – Divine Wisdom

The more we know God's will, the more we need spiritual understanding to discern its meaning and purpose, and the more we acquire His wisdom to apply that knowledge according to His will.

3. Revelation Knowledge Reveals Christ

The center of all true revelation is Jesus Christ. The Bible declares in John chapter 1 verse 1: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God”. It goes further in verse 14 and says: **“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us”**.

Rev Duncan Lee always emphasised the need for Christians to understand that Christ is the Word made flesh. Therefore, when we receive the Revelation of the Word, we are being brought into a deeper Revelation of Christ – the Christ in You, the Hope of Glory! In the book of Colossians 1:27, the Bible declares that “...God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Which is why the preaching and teaching of God's Word are so important, as the Word declares in Roman 10:17; “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”. Faith grows as the Word is heard, received and understood. The Word produces faith because the Word reveals the Christ.

The Gospel is therefore not merely a message about religious beliefs. It is “the power of God unto salvation” and reveals the righteousness of God: “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth... For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith” (Romans 1:16–17). Notice the expected progression as a result of hearing the Gospel: growth from faith to faith.

There is always another dimension of Christ to discover, another level of spiritual maturity to attain and another measure of God's will to understand.

(To be continued.)

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