

PRAYING LIKE PAUL

PLP-16 "A Prayer of deep Affection"

12/14/2025

COL 1:9-12 "And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,¹⁰ so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;¹¹ being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light."

Paul was not only a man of knowledge, inspired by God to teach the Believers truth that leads to godliness, and establish the Doctrine of God's grace in Salvation. He was a man of "passion". He deeply cared for those who had received the Gospel of God's grace.

PAUL'S AFFECTION

Although the word "affection" is not used in this passage, the LETTER itself, and especially his prayers, reflect the meaning of the word. "Affection" is a word used only by Paul. The meaning implies "a deep, intense, inward drive to show compassion, mercy, and care to the point of intervention." The basic definition means, "from the guts" which drives one to action.

Time after time in the LETTER TO THE COLOSSIANS this quality is shown:

COL 1:27-28 [Phillips] So, naturally, we proclaim Christ! We warn everyone we meet, and we teach everyone we can, all that we know about him, so that, if possible, we may bring every man up to his full maturity in Christ. This is what I am working at all the time, with all the strength that God gives me.

COL 2:1-5 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face,² that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ,³ in whom are hidden all

the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.⁴ I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments.⁵ For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ.

COL 2:17-18 Therefore let no one pass judgment on you...

¹⁸ Let no one disqualify you...

**I could go on, basically presenting the whole LETTER.

Paul is "fighting" for them. But knowing that he cannot be there in person to act against their "opponents" and to encourage and strengthen their faith, his greatest "spiritual weapon" and his ability to "fortify" them is through Prayer.

He prays for God to give them the knowledge, wisdom, and understanding they need to live within His will, pleasing Him in every way, and bearing fruit in all that they do.

PAUL'S PRAYER

COL 1:9-12 "And so, from the day we heard [of your faith and love], we have not ceased to pray for you:

- asking **THAT** you **may be filled** with the knowledge of his will
 - **in all** spiritual wisdom
 - **and** understanding...
- ¹⁰ **SO AS** to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord,
 - **fully pleasing to him:**
 - **bearing fruit** in every good work
 - **and increasing** in the knowledge of God;
 - ¹¹ **being strengthened** with all power,
 - **according to his glorious might,**
 - **for all endurance and patience with joy;**
 - ¹² **giving thanks** to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light."