

PRAYING LIKE PAUL

PLP-17 “Asking That...”

12/28/2025

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.”

Paul knows that Believers need to be “filled with the knowledge of God’s will,” SO THAT they may “walk in a manner worthy of the Lord...” The saints at Colosse were under assault by philosophies and false doctrine that would be a hindrance to their “Walk.”

Teaching would help, so Paul wrote them Letters, and supported and taught Leaders who would be present with them.

But he knew something else was necessary: PRAYER.

PAUL ASKED

The word Paul choose to use for Prayer is “Asking...” This is a specific word, “Deomai” which means to “ask, demand, desire, or request something that is yours by right or promise.” This is a “strong” word and is consistently used by Jesus when He mentions prayer.

MATT 6:8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

JOHN 14:13-14 Whatever you ask in My Name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me anything in My Name, I will do it.

JOHN 15:7 If you abide in Me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

One of the most illuminating verses is in 1 JOHN 5.

1 JOHN 5:14-15 And this is the confidence that we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have required of Him.

- Confidence... “Parrhesia” – bold, free-flowing words, frankness ...
- We ASK... He HEARS...
 - According to - “Kata” - as they are Submitted to, influenced by
 - His WILL... – “Thelema” – God’s Eternal purposes – that which is fulfilled in accomplishing His pleasure
- IF we Know He Hears...
 - [because we know our requests are submitted to His Will]
 - Whatever we required ...
- We Know we Have ...
- The “Requests” ...
- We “Required” of Him ...

Paul is “making a demand upon God” knowing that what he desires is according to the “Eternal Purposes of God.”

Paul makes his request “knowing” that it the accomplishing of his desire expressed in his words will lead to that which pleases God.

Paul ASKS that God give them what HE has purposed for them!