

PRAYING LIKE PAUL

PLP-19 “So That You May Walk Worthy”

01/11/2026

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 spiritual 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 the “knowledge of God’s will” is essential for the proper and productive “walk – lifestyle” of the Believers. His desire for them is demonstrated in his Letter [The Word] and by the Spirit’s leading. He does not leave this to the Believer alone, he invokes God’s help by PRAYER.

SPIRITUAL WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING

“In All Wisdom...” – “Sophia” – Biblical Wisdom is often defined as “the correct application of knowledge”

- As the Believers are “filled with the knowledge of His will” Paul prays that they be able to make correct application of that knowledge
- “All Understanding...” – “Sungsis” – to know what / how to put together Paul’s conversation and request [Prayer] of GOD is for the “further development” of the lives of these saints – As God reveals knowledge and grants wisdom, He will also help us know how or what to apply

“Spiritual...” – This adjective modifies both words –

- The “Wisdom and Understanding” we need are NOT attained by following the “philosophies” of the world...
- God’s purposes and desires often run “counter to” or “exceed” that which is “known naturally” or learned through reasoning

SO AS TO WALK

“To Walk...” “Peripateo” – To walk about – “have a visible lifestyle”

- The verb includes the understanding that this “lifestyle” is dependent upon and the result of what has preceded... and is necessary for the accomplishment of what follows...
- A Believer cannot walk in this manner without that which comes from God
- Paul knows that “his prayers” are an essential element in bringing the Believers to the fulfillment of this “walk / lifestyle”
- BECAUSE God can do that which is beyond Paul’s limitations

WORTHY OF THE LORD

“Worthy...” This is the central point of Paul’s prayer... The whole purpose of “being filled with the knowledge of God’s will with all Spiritual wisdom and Spiritual understanding” is to lead to a lifestyle that is honestly lived before the world ... reflecting ALL that God has done in us

- “Worthy...” – “Axios” – To bring balance – to be proper / equal-out – Not so as to “attain” but because of what has been given
- EPH 4:1 “I beseech you to walk in a manner worthy of your calling...”
- Paul’s prayer is that they can bring balance in their lives to what Christ has given to us...
- This “balanced lifestyle” will allow the “world” to see God’s grace accomplished in us
- And allow us to offer proper thanksgiving for all that HE has done... and for what we have been granted