

PRAYING LIKE PAUL

PLP-21 “Being Strengthened”

02/01/2026

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.”

Last week we studied what it meant to walk in a manner that “pleases the Lord.” This “walk” is not accomplished BY God FOR us. However, we are not left to do this in our own strength. AS we set our hearts to “walk in a manner worthy...” it is God who brings us the strength. This will then bring us to a place of “giving thanks to the Father.” [Next Lesson]
This is what God desires from each Believer. So, Paul makes this a matter of **PRAYER** for the Believers. Paul wants them to know what they can “receive” so that they may “give.”

STRENGTHENED

- “Being strengthened...with all power” – Lit: “Empowered with all Power” – an interesting multiplication of the word “Dunamis”
 - “Empowered” is - “having received the supernatural ability” – This ability is the act of God by which “dunamis” is granted to the believer by God so that their actions are by His power –

This “empowering” is a result of the Believer “walking in a manner worthy of the Lord” –

While it is available to all... Not all have received it... Just as in the Believer “bearing fruit”, Paul prays they also receive this “power”

- “with all power” is – “to exercise supernatural ability” – The power they receive is not limited, nor directed to “one” thing, as in:

PHIL 4:13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

1 TIM 1:12 I thank Him who has given me strength [empowered me]...

Paul’s prayer is that as they have received this “empowering” they will respond in using that “ability” in every dimension of their life...

- “According to His glorious might...” – From the word “Kratos” – ruling power, to “dominate” ...

The word “according to” means “under the influence of...” – The only limitation to the Believers “empowering” is that it is “under the influence of the display God’s ruling power that brings Glory to Him”

- “For all endurance and patience...” – These 2 words are related to the “trouble / pressure” that the Believer encounters in this world... from Satan, and from the world system, and from our flesh...
 - Endurance is “Hupomone” To abide / stay under / resist the pressure until victory is achieved...
 - Patience is “Makrothumia” – longsuffering / forbearance – the implication is that “deliverance” may not come for a time...

The empowering Paul prays for the Believers to receive as they “walk in a manner worthy of the Lord” gives them strength to stand under the pressure even if it is a long time until they see their victory...

- “With joy...” – This is a word often associated with the Believers response to “pressure / trial / tribulation” – it is accompanied with “Joy”... even if it takes “a long time” for deliverance to come...

JAMES 1:2-3 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.