**Colossians 1** **Faith, Hope, Love, and Holiness** (c) 2017 WF Cobb Truthbase.net ***DailyTruthbase.blog***

**I. Faith & Love begin w/ the Word of the Spirit, grow *dia* Hope, cultivated by wisdom/discernment in doing God's will**

1:2 saints & faithful 3 give thanks...praying for you, 4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints;

5 because of the **hope** which is laid up *2Tim 4:8* for you in heaven, of which you heard before in/by the word of the truth of the gospel,

6 which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you

 since the day you heard and epi-knew the grace of God in/by truth *1Pt 1:22 born again by Word of God*

7 as you also learned from Epaphras, 8 who also declared to us your love in/en the Spirit.

Col 4:12 Epaphras...always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete/full in all the will of God.

**II. To be Blameless and Blessable, we need God's wisdom and discernment to do His will and walk worthy of Our Lord**

Eph 1:3...blessed us...4 chose us that we should be holy and without blame before Him in/*en* love,

15 Therefore...heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, 16 thanks..pray: 17 that..the Father of glory,

 may give to you A spirit of wisdom and revelation in/by the knowledge of Him

Phil 1:9...pray, that your love may abound still more and more in/by *(means of)* knowledge and all discernment,

 10 that you may manifest the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ,

 11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Col 1:9 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it *(faith and love based upon hope vv4-5)*, do not cease to pray for you,

 and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in/by all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all endurance/patience and longsuffering with joy;

 12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

 Acts 26:18 to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God,

 that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified/holy by faith in Me.'

14 in whom/Christ we have redemption thru His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

20 to reconcile all things to Himself...having made peace thru the blood of His cross.

21 once alienated and enemies in your dia-mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled 22 in the body of His flesh thru death,

 **to present you holy** *1Pt 1:22***, and blameless**\* *Lk 1:6***, and above reproach in His sight** *Jude 1:24*---

23 **IF** indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the **hope** of the gospel which you heard... Paul, became a minister 24 I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, the church...27 riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you *Jn 14:23*, the **hope** of glory *Rm 8:17*

**III. Believers need teaching that puts them in their right minds in order to become holy & mature doing God's will to be blessed**

Col 1:28 Him we preach, warning *3:16; Rm 15:14;* every man and teaching *Mt 28:20 Ac 5:42 2Tim 2:2* every man in/by all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. 29 To this end I also labor, striving according to His working... 2:6 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus Lord, so walk in Him 7 rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught...

Eph 5:27 That he might present *Rm 14:10* it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish**\*** Rev 14:5 in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault\* before the throne of God.

1Cor 1:8 who will also confirm/establish you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jude 1:24 to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless\* before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

2Pt 1:5 giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, knowledge 6 self-control, perseverance, godliness, 7 brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**Questions for Reflection/Discussion/Response:**

1. If believers in Christ have faith and thus redemption/forgiveness, and have love, why would Paul and Epaphras pray and suffer for them?

2. What happens if believers don't continue in the faith, or turn aside from following Christ? Why wouldn't they continue to the end?

3. What is your hope as a Christian? How does that differ from faith or forgiveness? What does your Biblical hope cause you to do?

4. Will every believer be presented to God as holy, blameless and beyond reproach? Why/why not? What happens to bad believers?

5. What can you do to make your hope secure? How can you diligently add the Christ-like character traits commanded in 2Pt 1:6-6?