

“The New Us”

Dr. Geoffrey Plummer
Calvary Baptist Church

January 2, 2022

Scripture

Colossians 1:9-12

“For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have **not ceased to pray for you** and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will ***in all spiritual wisdom and understanding***, so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.”

Welcome to 2022!

- Welcome to the New Year, 2022
- Any New Year’s Resolutions?
- Welcome to my bride, Kath!
- Welcome to “The New Us”

The Colossian Story

- The place of cool waters out of the three cities, joining Hierapolis and Laodicea
- Epaphras founded the church
- Paul writing from prison in Rome: other prison epistles were Ephesians, Philippians, and Philemon

The Preamble (Colossians 1:3-7)

“We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, **since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love which you have for all the saints**; because of the hope laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel which has come to you, just as in all the world also it is constantly bearing fruit and increasing, even as it has been doing in you also since the day you heard of it and understood the grace of God in truth; **just as you learned it from Epaphras, our beloved fellow bond-servant, who is a faithful servant of Christ on our behalf, and he also informed us of your love in the Spirit.**”

Paul had heard about the church when Epaphras joined him in Rome and the Apostle wanted to send his greetings along to the church, plant them firmly in Christ and provide general encouragement for them.

The New Condition

Salvation brings the New State: **Redeemed**

2 Corinthians 5:17

“If any man is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away, behold, new things have come”

Paul prays for the young (re-born?) church to be:

filled with the knowledge of His will

Filled with knowledge -> Complete knowledge

of His Will -> of His “preferred” will (not His determined will)

*in all **spiritual wisdom** and **spiritual understanding***

Spiritual Wisdom -> Having the knowledge of biblical principles

Spiritual Understanding -> Applying that wisdom to your life

Traditional Wisdom is the Greek Sophia used as having “skill in living”

so that you walk in a manner worthy of the Lord

Walk -> traditionally used as your daily conduct in life

Worthy -> living as unto Jesus Christ, **the observer of everything you do in life**

Ephesians 4:1

“Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called.”

Paul’s emphasis is that you have been called, CHOSEN to be different. We are not to act as the world acts. **We are to be PURE**, as we discussed last week, set apart from the world.

to please Him in all respects

The purpose of taking in biblical knowledge, applying it to your lives, walking in a manner worthy is to **bring pleasure to Jesus** so that He might say, “well done, good and faithful servant” or “this is My beloved brother or sister in whom I am well pleased.”

2 Corinthians 5:9

“Therefore, we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, **to be pleasing to Him.**”

You have been called to be a saint, therefore, live that way.

Do not preach one message with your lips and another message with your life

Turn over to Colossians 3...

Colossians 3:1-17

Therefore, if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.** For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

Therefore, consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, and **in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.** But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth.

That is the new YOU... -> (First 8 verses)

Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

So, **as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved,** put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. Beyond all these things put on love, **which is the perfect bond of unity.**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father."

That is The New US... The New YOU applied to others around you...is the new US...

Well, what should that look like? How will that play out in our community?

What the Community Thinks about us!

It's interesting when you come into a community as a Pastor:

- The deep <sigh> followed by an "Ohhhh...you're at the Baptist church?"
- "You've got your work cut out for you..."
- "I wondered who they were going to get to come there..."
- A sarcastic "Good Luck, Pastor"

Letting the World Define You

Do not let the world define you **OR define us...**

How the world loves to categorize us...

- By profession
- By school or sports teams
- By physical appearance or stature
- By personal or family relationships

Romans 12:2

KJV: “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

NIV: “Do not conform to the pattern of this world...”

1 John 2:15-17

“**Do not love the world** nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. **The world is passing away**, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.”

John 13:34-35

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you. **BY THIS** all men will know you are my disciples if you have love for one another”

It is an **IDENTIFYING LOVE** that should define us...

How Jesus Defined Us! -> **Before Christ, Enemies (Romans 5:10)**

John 15:5 (before the Resurrection)

“No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; **but I have called you friends**, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.”

John 20:17 (after the Resurrection)

“Jesus said to her, “Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; **but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'**”

Enemies to Friends to Brothers and Sisters

How Paul Defined Us!

Colossians 3:12 -> “those who have been **chosen** of God, **holy and beloved**”

So, let the Bible define you, not the world... Let us answer those “who are you?” questions with Bible!

bearing fruit in every good work

Matthew 7:15-20

“Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. "You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? "So, **every good tree bears good fruit**, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. "A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. "Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "So then, you will know them by their fruits.”

Good fruit is guaranteed if you're a good tree. If you are truly in Christ, you will produce good fruit.

In Jesus's example, he was saying that a teacher of the truth will produce disciples that are walking in truth. A false teacher, however, will not be able to produce disciples walking in the truth.

Ephesians 2:8-10

“For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. **For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.**”

Good works, divine appointments, ministry opportunities are laid out in front of us.

increasing in the knowledge of God;

Where do you get this knowledge of God?

This is the reason why we need to continue to study the Bible, regardless of how much we have studied in the past.

1 Peter 2:1-3

“Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, **like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word**, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.”

2 Peter 3:14-18

“Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; **just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.**

You, therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, **be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men** and fall from your own steadfastness, **but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”

Increasing Knowledge Results in:

- Deeper Love for His Word Psalm 119:97
- More Perfect Obedience to His principles 1 John 2:3-5
- Strong Doctrinal Foundation 1 John 2:12-14
- Expanding Faith 2 Thessalonians 1:3
- Greater Love for Others Philippians 1:9

strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for

This means relying on His power to continue in Bible study and diligent application of biblical principles to our lives.

Trusting in Him to walk with you in life, guided by the Holy Spirit’s influence.

for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience

- Steadfastness means enduring difficult circumstances
- Patience means enduring difficult people

joyously giving thanks to the Father

Thankfulness in all things is a hallmark of Christian living

who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.”

Qualified means “to make sufficient” or “to authorize” -> made us into a Kingdom person

Sharing in the inheritance highlights back to when the tribes of Israel were **given their portion in the Promised Land**. Christians will receive “their portion” in the Kingdom, “their room” or “their mansions” in the heavenly house of Christ.

Light would represent God’s Kingdom -> light signifies both **truth** and **moral purity** in the New Testament.

Church Covenant

Communion

Prayer

Order of Service

Calvary Baptist Church, Cambridge

January 2nd, 2022 – 9:30 AM

Dr. Geoffrey Plummer Preaching

Welcome and Announcements	Pastor Geoffrey Plummer
Worship in Music	Congregation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Here I Am to Worship• Crown Him with Many Crowns	
Offertory Prayer	Deacon Colby Carpenter
Reading of God's Word and Prayer	Deacon Don Fouts
Sermon (Colossians 1:9-12)	Pastor Geoffrey Plummer
Communion	Pastor Geoffrey Plummer
Celebration Music	Congregation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus Paid it All	
Benediction	Pastor Geoffrey Plummer

Announcements for Sunday, January 2nd, 2022

Communications Update

- The new website is LIVE: www.cbccne.org
- YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/channel/UCra63eoUMtj13N2Q_uamemA
- Online Giving is Available: Go to the website, there is a **Give** button at the top right
- "Ask the Pastor" is LIVE Go to the website, "**Ask the Pastor**" in the top menu
 - Use for any biblical question you might have
 - Or Hymn requests for a Sunday service!
- **Sermon Notes** are Online Go to the website, at the bottom of the Sermons page
- Sign-up for Communication Updates if you haven't already

Upcoming Events

- Communion Sunday, January 2nd at 10:45am
- Pastoral Installation Service Sunday, January 9th at 9:30am
- Potluck Luncheon Sunday, January 9th at 11:30am
- Annual Business Meeting Sunday, January 30 ay 11:30am

Lyrics to: Here I am to Worship (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXg2ztge8f0>)

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God

You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days
Oh, so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God

You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

Lyrics to: Crown Him with Many Crowns (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lf-svStcvS8>)

Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon the throne
Hark! How the heav'nly anthems drown
All music but its own!

Awake, my soul and sing
Of Him Who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Thru all eternity

Crown Him the Son of God
Before the worlds began
And ye, who tread where He hath trod
Crown Him the Son of Man

Who every grief has known
That wrings the human breast
And takes and bears them for His own
That all in Him may rest

Crown Him the Lord of love
Behold His hands and side
Those wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified

No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight
But downward bends His wondering eye
At mysteries so bright

Crown Him the Lord of Life
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save

His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die

Crown Him the Lord of lords
Who over all doth reign
Who once on earth, the Incarnate Word
For ransomed sinners slain

Now lives in realms of light
Where saints with angels sing
Their songs before Him day and night
Their God, Redeemer, King

Lyrics to: Jesus Paid it All (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxH8Q8ue65o>)

I hear the Savior say,
Thy strength indeed is small.
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all.

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

For nothing good have I
Whereby Thy grace to claim;
I'll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calvary's Lamb.

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

And now, complete in Him
My robe, His righteousness
Close sheltered 'neath His side
I am divinely blest

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy pow'r, and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone.

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

When, from my dying bed
My ransomed soul shall rise
Jesus died, my soul to save
Shall rend the vaulted sky

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

And when, before the throne,
I stand in Him complete,
I'll lay my trophies down
All down at Jesus's feet

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

He washed it white as snow.

Sermon Notes

1. filled with the knowledge of His will
2. in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,
3. so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord,
4. to please Him in all respects,
5. bearing fruit in every good work and
6. increasing in the knowledge of God;
7. strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might,
8. for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience;
9. joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has
10. qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.”