

Lesson 29
You Are Complete In Him
Col 2:10-15

Col 2:10-15¹⁰ And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:¹¹ In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:¹² Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.¹³ And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;¹⁴ Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;¹⁵ And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. KJV

I. We Are Utterly Complete in Him

- a. There can be **no more** significant union than that which the believer has in Christ because He is head of all principality and all power.
- b. In union with Christ **we are filled** full of all we need. He is full of the "fullness" itself; we are filled from Him and in Him is abundant life. John 1:15-17; 10:9-10

II. What He Has Done To Make Us Complete

- a. He was the model of one whose circumcision was made **without hands**. Rom 2:28-29
- b. Unlike the OT cutting away of only a small part of the flesh, Christ's circumcision consists in putting off the **whole body** of the corrupt nature. Phil 3:3
- c. This was done **vicariously** and positionally for us in Christ's body when He kept the whole law.
- d. Having been symbolically buried with Him in our baptism, we have buried the **old carnal life**, as represented in baptismal immersion. Col 2:12
- e. As Christ was raised, we are raised with Him, as a seal and obligation of our living **newness of life**. Eph 1:18-20
- f. We believe that Christ's completeness was produced by the **energy of God**. Thus our completeness is a function of the faith we have in His work. Rom 5:1-2
- g. Nothing was done or suffered by our Example on our behalf that does not have its counterpart in the sanctification process **of believers**. 1 Peter 2:19-21

III. Why We Need The Completeness That He Provides

- a. Our state of sin left us in a state of spiritual death. Those who are in sin are **dead in sin**. Col 2:13
- b. As a man who is dead is unable to help himself by any power of his own, so an unrepentant sinner is morally impotent: he has **no spiritual power**.
- c. As the death of the body is the corruption and putrefaction of it, so sin is the **corruption** or depravation of the soul. Eph 4:22-23
- d. In being united to Him we have a **quickening** of our spirit. We are born-again by the operation of His Spirit within us. John 3:5-8
- e. Our trespasses against God need to be completely **propitiated** in order to give us access to Him and to reconcile us to Him. Rom 3:25; 5:10

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- f. Whatever was in force against us is taken out of the way. He has obtained for us a legal discharge from the hand-writing of ordinances, which was **against us**. Gal 3:10; Eph 2:15
- g. That which was against us was nailed to His cross. This is an allusion to the ancient method of canceling a bond by nailing it to the door of the **debtor**.
- h. The Son of man was raised to the throne of God; thus His resurrection and ascension are an **open triumph** over the principalities and powers. John 12:31; 16:11; Rev 12:5-10

IV. Application

Seeing that we have eternal completeness in Christ and lack nothing in the economy of God our disposition concerning this temporal life ought to be as follows:

THE VOICE OF CHRIST : “My child, this is the disposition which you should have if you wish to walk with Me. You should be as ready to suffer as to enjoy. You should as willingly be destitute and poor as rich and satisfied.” Book 3, Chapter 17, *Imitation of Christ*

Is that your disposition?

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- a. He was the model of one whose circumcision was made _____.
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- b. As a man who is dead is unable to help himself by any power of his own, so an unrepentant sinner is morally impotent: he has _____.
- c. As the death of the body is the corruption and putrefaction of it, so sin is the _____ or depravation of the soul. Eph 4:22-23
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