



Colossians 2:6-7

The Christian Life

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Colossians 2:1-2

For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, 2 that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ

Colossians 2:3-5

3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

4 I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments.

5 For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ.

Colossians 2:6-7

6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, 7 rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Main Points in Verse 6-7

- What does it mean to receive Christ Jesus?
- Understand the main command “Walk in him”
- What will walking in him produce for those who have received Christ?
 - Be being built-up in Him, and established in the faith
- What should be the end result for the Christian?
 - Gratitude/Thanksgiving to God

What does it mean to receive Christ?

Therefore, just as you received Christ Jesus the Lord

Receive: to take with one's self, to join one's self to; to accept

- **John 1:12** *But to all who did **receive** him, who **believed** in his name, he gave the right to become children of God*
- **1 Corinthians 15:1** *Now I would remind you brothers of the gospel I preached to you which you **received**, in which you stand and by which you are being saved*
 - The gospel is the message about Jesus (v3-4 *that **Christ** died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that **He** was buried, that **He** was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures*)
- **Romans 3:25** *(Christ Jesus) whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be **received by faith**.*
 - The message of the gospel is pointing to a person: Jesus

To receive Jesus is to believe and receive (by faith) what the Scriptures tell us about Jesus

Therefore (Pointing back Ch1-Ch2) Christ Jesus the Lord

What does it mean to receive Christ?

Therefore, just as you received Christ Jesus the Lord:

Christ: The anointed one, The Messiah (And his completed work)

– Reconciler (Ch1:20-22)

Jesus: The person and object of our faith (the Son of God come in flesh)

– Our hope is not in the depth of our faith but the object of our faith

Lord: God in the flesh (Creator and sustainer of all things, worthy of our submission)

– The idea that you can receive Jesus as Christ (Savior) and not Lord is not Biblical

To receive Christ Jesus the Lord is more than affirming some truths about Him, but rather to know and accept the person of Jesus as Savior and Lord

- Relational and personal (My Savior for my sins, and My Lord over my life)
- We do not just receive His blessings but we receive Him, the Blessor
- Jesus is the Lord and Christ, and we receive Him as Lord and Christ or as nothing

What does it mean to receive Christ?

Knowing the depravity of man (Rom 3:10-18, 1 Cor 2:14, John 3:19, Jer 17:9), what causes a man to receive Jesus as Christ and Lord?

- **1 Corinthians 12:3** *no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.*
- Genuine saving faith (James 2-Living faith) is a work of the Spirit of God in the new birth (regeneration)
 - We will see in a moment, it produces a way of life

Have you received Jesus?

- Do you joyfully embrace Him as Savior (all-sufficient) & Lord (over all)

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him

- Walk (Behavior/to live)
- In the same way you received Jesus (as a child in complete dependence)
Matt 18:3 *“Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.*

Walk in Him

So walk in him:

- The call to “*walk in him*” came after they had received Him
 - Before we take one step as followers of Jesus Christ, we receive Him (& in Him, we are reconciled to God in His atoning death & righteousness)
- The call is to “*walk in him*”-We do not move beyond or go ahead of Jesus but rather it is in Him that we walk
 - Christianity is not moralism (it is not “God saved you from the punishment you deserve now go live a life that is moral and good)
 - Christianity is a miracle of the heart, producing a new creation in Christ (2 Cor 5:17 with new desires) that is completely dependent on Jesus (John 15:5)
 - Our walking is “in him” (Christ/gospel driven, gospel empowered walking)
- “Walk in him” is a command, the true converts greatest desire, and it defines the true believer
 - **1 John 1:6** *If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.* (Rom 6:11)

NASB *having been firmly rooted & now being built up in Him & established in your faith, just as you were instructed and overflowing with gratitude.*

Remember, Paul is encouraging and exhorting the church so v4 “*that no one may delude you with plausible arguments*” and turn them from Jesus Christ

- As you receive Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him

V7 Having been firmly rooted (in Him): When were they firmly rooted?

- At conversion (Matthew 13 Parable of sower)
- The Holy Spirit (our helper/teacher) roots us in Christ supernaturally (new birth/opening our eyes Ezek 36:22-31)
- Firmly rooted “in Him”

V7 Now being built up in Him

- “*Having received Christ Jesus the Lord*”, and “*having been firmly rooted*” in Him, when we “*walk in Him*”, we are now “*being built up in Him*”
- Notice that our building up is not going beyond Christ but again it is “in Him” (exposing the false teaching of worldly philosophy)

As we are built up in Him, we are ever more *established in the faith (as we were instructed)*

- Established in our faith (truths regarding Christ Jesus our Lord)
- The more established we are, the less we will be moved away from Christ by temptation, philosophy, false teachings, etc (Eph 4:14)

End Goal of It All

Overflowing with gratitude/thanksgiving

- In every area of our Christian life (entrance, growth, maturing) should produce gratitude/thanksgiving
 - Gratitude and thanksgiving: Looking away from self to Jesus Christ
 - Continual gratitude and thanksgiving

Knowing that in every aspect of our salvation God deserves the gratitude (saving grace, sustaining grace) we should be the most humble and thankful people