

THE INCREASE OF THE GOSPEL

Pastor Lucas Almeida—January 2nd, 2022—Central Baptist Church

Colossians 1:3-14

ESV

[3] We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, [4] since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, [5] because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, [6] which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, [7] just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf [8] and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

[9] And so, from the day we heard, 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 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. [13] He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, [14] in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

INTRODUCTION

1 Corinthians 5:9—So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

God's demands of us more than we can give, but he supplies us with more than we need.

1) THANKSGIVING (vs. 3-8)

Paul first thanks God for The gospel that was born in their hearts.

- Faith rests on an object—Jesus.
- Love is the outwork of this faith—the fruit.
- Hope is the motivation.

The gospel, however, does not come to us in order to first comfort us, but to confront us.

The gospel first offends, then humbles, and then saves.

1 Corinthians 13:4–7—[4] Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant [5] or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; [6] it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. [7] Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

2) SUPPLICATION (vs. 9-14)

Paul is praying that the Colossians would have discernment.

Romans 12:2—Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God...

Psalm 1:1

Blessed is the man who walks
not in the counsel of the wicked..."

Proverbs 2:6–8

[6] For the LORD gives **wisdom**;
from his mouth come **knowledge** and **understanding**;
[7] he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
he is a shield to those who walk in integrity,
[8] guarding the paths of justice
and watching over the way of his saints.

The internal reality of our faith must match the external expression of our faith.

Paul is praying that the Colossians would have assurance.

Philippians 4:19—And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

The word “redemption” here refers to the price it would cost to buy a slave out of slavery

1 Corinthians 6:19b–20—[19b] You are not your own, [20] for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.