

Sunday Meeting
Sermon Outline on Colossians 2:1-7
Title: Striving for maturity
Mike Heissler

Those who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ must learn what true discernment is. The church experiences many attacks and persecutions. We don't directly talk about physical persecutions although that is near! When you observe government regulations against Christians especially in the west.

John Flavel

“By entertaining of strange persons, men sometimes entertain angels unawares; but by entertaining of strange doctrines, many have entertained devils unawares.”

In Chapter 2:1-7 Paul shows 3 examples of apostolic burden which we must consider that will remind us the depth of the treasure of Christ, these are the apostolic concern, apostolic warning and finally Paul's apostolic exhortation.

1st example, Apostolic Concern vv.1-3

Colossians 3:14 *“Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.”*

2 Peter 1:5-8 *“Now for this very reason also, applying all **diligence**, in your faith supply **moral excellence**, and in your moral excellence, **knowledge**, and in your knowledge, **self-control**, and in your self-control, **perseverance**, and in your perseverance, **godliness**, and in your godliness, **brotherly kindness**, and in your brotherly kindness, **love**. For if these **qualities** are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

John 6:44 *“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.”*

Romans 11:33,34 *“Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who became His counselor? Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to him again?”*

2nd example, Apostolic Warning vv.4–5

James 1:22 *“But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.”*

1 Corinthians 14:40 *“But all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner.”*

1 Peter 5:5–10 *“Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.”*

3rd example, Apostolic Exhortation vv.6–7

Luis Berkhof *Generation implants the principle of the new life in the soul, and the new birth causes this principle to begin to assert itself in action.”*

Ephesians 3:17 *“so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love,”*

Ephesians 2:20 *“having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,”*

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Rom. 5:8)

Conclusion

J. C. Ryle on the atonement of Christ: *“Let us serve him faithfully as our Master. Let us obey Him loyally as our King. Let us study His teaching as our Prophet. Let us walk diligently after Him as our Example. Let us look anxiously for Him as our coming Redeemer of body as well as soul. But above all, let us prize Him as our sacrifice, and rest our whole weight on His death as an atonement for sin. Let His blood be more precious in our eyes every year we live. Whatever else we glory in about Christ, let us glory above all things in His cross.”*