

## Fullness In Christ

### Colossians 2:10

**Objective:** Help @ appreciate the satisfaction of being in Christ.

**Reading:** Colossians 2:6-12.

**Memory:** Colossians 2:10, "...and you have been given fullness in Christ ..."

#### **Introduction:**

1. The Psalmist says in the 23rd Psalm, "...**my cup runneth over.**" (KJV) Meaning, I am just so happy! He feels safe, secure. Blessed in everyway possible Because the Lord is his shepherd!
2. Do you feel like that? Absolutely complete. Nothing lacking. Satisfaction and contentment. What a feeling, what a concept! That is how it should be for us in Christ. That is the concept being portrayed in today's Scripture reading from Colossians 2:10; "...**you have been given fullness in Christ ...**"
3. The word here, "fullness" = Perfect passive participle indicates completeness with abiding results.
4. Our completeness, our fullness

#### **We should treasure the completeness we have in Christ.** (HOW?)

Such "fullness" ought to bring us peace and contentment and joy every day. I ought to make us feel whole and satisfied. It ought to be the treasure and focus of our lives. Let's consider, today, how such "fullness" ought to reflect in our lives. (Two things that ought to generate appropriate response to this "fullness").

*For such a treasure to affect us with such confidence and joy and satisfaction, we need to ...*

#### **I. Realize What "Fullness" Christians Have.**

##### **A. A good relationship with God.**

1. Colossians 1:19-20, expresses some of it. "**For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.**"
  - a. Reconciliation with God. Peace with God through the blood of Christ.
  - b. Means unity / fellowship / kinship, with the Creator of the Universe. Father Son and Holy Spirit.
  - c. Means salvation. Eternal security. Something no man or force can take away from you.
2. Colossians 1:22, "**But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation ...**"
  - a. We have Holiness in God's sight. Pure. Perfect. His treasured possession. Bride!
  - b. No blemishes to tarnish His possession. No accusations or blame to be placed on Christians!

##### **B. A completeness of life.**

1. I wish I had more understanding! Here it is. In Christ, it is yours.
  - a. Access to knowing God's will; Colossians 1:9, "**For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding.**"
  - b. Colossians 1:25-27, Paul says, "**I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness—<sup>26</sup> the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints. <sup>27</sup> To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.**" All important mysteries of life are ours. We know the answers!
  - c. Colossians 2:2-3, "**My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, <sup>3</sup> in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**" All ours. All available to us. Just have to look into it!
2. We know the purpose of life, Have the full experience of life, feel the full presence of life.
3. Is someone lacking joy, that too is ours in Christ; 1 Peter 1:8-9, "**Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.**"
4. Is someone feeling helpless and without any power? It's there for you in Christ! Ephesians 3:20, "**Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according**

*to his power that is at work within us,”*

C. “Fullness” means that there is ***NOTHING*** lacking.

1. Absolute full adequacy to please God in every way; Colossians 1:10, ***“And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,”***
2. Other vital things to consider that you have; Colossians 1:11-13, ***“being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. <sup>13</sup> For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”***
  - a. Power. Endurance. Patience.
  - b. Inheritance. Rescue. Redemption. Forgiveness.
3. Do you want wisdom? It’s promised. James 1:5, ***“If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.”***
  - a. Without rebuke. Don’t worry about bothering God too much –He won’t find fault.
  - b. People might lose patience if you ask them for answers too many times. They might get thick-headed. God won’t do this. He won’t find fault, He’ll give the wisdom!
4. Is someone lacking in friends and family. Not “in Christ” Scripture refers to the church as the “family of God”. We are brothers and sisters in Christ! We belong to one another as family! Jesus says, ***“...no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—and with them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life.”*** (Mark 10:29-30)
5. An invincible friend to defeat Satan; 1 John 4:4, ***“...the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.”***
6. WOW! Every spiritual blessing is ours in Christ Jesus, to the praise of God’s glory!

*Realizing what “fullness” we have, it is also pertinent to realize where such fullness comes from.*

## **II. Realize How Christians Come To Have Such “Fullness”.**

A. We have it by virtue of Christ.

1. Only in union with Christ, in whom all the fullness of deity dwells.
2. By His love. By His sacrifice. Because we live and abide in His name.
3. Listen for the word “abide” in this reading of KJV John 15:3-10; ***“<sup>3</sup> Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. <sup>7</sup> If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. <sup>8</sup> Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. <sup>9</sup> As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. <sup>10</sup> If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.”*** “Abide means to dwell. NIV uses word “remain” but point is the same – we have the option and responsibility to stay “IN” Christ.

B. Staying “in Christ” involves progress.

1. It is not a static thing. It is a life. A life style and a life being lived. It is not a once and done thing, but a continuing, on-going, living, developing thing.
2. Paul tells Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:15, ***“Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress.”*** A continuing maturing is asserted.
3. It’s like a bean is just a bean until it becomes a living plant. Then, once it comes to life, it needs to keep growing and developing all its life. Otherwise it’s dead.
4. So Christians’ completeness, “fullness” assumes we are constantly growing and attaining godly attributes in increasing measure.

C. Such “fullness” comes by virtue of being “in Christ”.

1. “In Christ” means that you have a covenant relationship with God through Christ, obtained by confessing Him as lord and being clothed with Christ in baptism. (Galatians 3:27)
2. It means seeking and having the same heart and attitude as Christ always had. Even when angry. Disturbed, discouraged, tempted, frustrated or tempted.
3. It means being genuinely focused on doing the Father’s will, even when it costs you time, pain or money. It involves outward behavior, but also inner motivations. Spirit and Truth.
4. For such “fullness”, there is a need to come to Christ, and a need to continue in Christ, to continue in the faith.
  - a. Colossians 1:23, “...**if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.**”
  - b. Colossians 2:6-7, “**So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.**”
  - c. be alert to stay so you don’t drift away or be lead astray!

D. Don’t be disqualified; stay “in Christ”

1. A quick look at some verses of warning. Don’t be deceived or distracted by fine sounding arguments. Colossians 2:4, “**I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments.**” You will hear thing like;
  - a. *It just makes sense to live together before you are married ...* Wrong.
  - b. *How can baptism wash away sins...? You’re not supposed to DO anything.* Wrong.
  - c. *Nobody thinks Christ is the only way... Wrong.*
2. “**See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy.**” (Colossians 2:8)
  - a. Here is what they teach in school nowadays!
  - b. Modern philosophy says two men should marry.
3. Don’t be deceived or distracted by human traditions. Colossians 2:8b, “...**which depends on human tradition... “**
  - a. Here is what Grandma used to do.
  - b. Most people in this part of the world believe ...
4. Or basic worldly principles. Colossians 2:8b, “...**and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.**”
  - a. Might is right. Bigger is better!
  - b. Let’s vote on what qualifications of elders should be.
  - c. “in Christ” depends of Christ, not on human will of human teachings.

So What?

The psalmist rejoices and says, “...**my cup runneth over.**” You can too. Come to Christ. Put on Christ. Keep your focus on Christ. That’s where everything is that is of value to you. And rejoice in Christ for, “...**you have been given fullness in Christ ...**”

Closing Prayer:

## **Fullness In Christ**

**Colossians 2:10**

**Reading:** Colossians 2:6-12.

**Memory:** Colossians 2:10

**“...a\_y\_h\_b\_g\_f\_i\_C\_...”**

### **We should treasure the completeness we have in Christ.**

Such “fullness” ought to reflect in our lives.

#### **I. Realize What “Fullness” Christians Have.**

A. A good relationship with God.

Colossians 1:19-20 Colossians 1:22

B. A completeness of life.

Colossians 1:9 Colossians 1:25-27 Colossians 2:2-3 1 Peter 1:8-9 Ephesians 3:20

C. “Fullness” means that there is *NOTHING* lacking.

Colossians 1:10 Colossians 1:11-13 James 1:5 1 John 4:4

#### **II. Realize How Christians Come To Have Such “Fullness”.**

A. We have it by virtue of Christ.

John 15:4

B. Staying “in Christ” involves progress.

1 Timothy 4:15

C. Such “fullness” comes by virtue of being “in Christ”.

Colossians 1:23 Colossians 2:6-7

D. Don’t be disqualified; stay “in Christ”

Colossians 2:4 Colossians 2:8a Colossians 2:8b Colossians 2:8c

#### **So What?**

Come to Christ. Put on Christ. Keep your focus on Christ.