



Knowing Christ

The Fullness of God

Strive to the Finish

- ^{NAS} **Philippians 3:13** Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Knowing Christ

- ^{NAS} **Philippians 3:8** More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord ...
 - *Driven by present knowledge of Christ*
- ^{NIV} **Philippians 3:10** I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death
 - *Driven to future knowledge of Christ*

Blessed by Knowing Christ

- “He who grows not in the knowledge of Jesus, refuses to be blessed. To fail to grow is to forfeit grace. To settle for where we are is to surrender more joy, more strength, more peace — more of God. To know him is “life eternal,” and to advance in the knowledge of him is to increase in happiness. He who does not long to know more of Christ, knows nothing of him yet. Whoever has sipped this wine will thirst for more, for although Christ does satisfy, yet it is such a satisfaction that the appetite is not choked, but whetted”.

– *Charles Spurgeon*



Introduction

The Gospel According to John

- ^{NAS} **John 20:30** Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.
- ^{NAS} **Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes ...

➤ *All the believing ones.*

The Fullness of God in Christ

The God-Man

- ^{NAS} **John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.... ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- ^{NAS} **Hebrews 1:2** in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. ³ And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power...
- ^{NAS} **Colossians 1:15** And He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have been created by Him and for Him.
- ^{NAS} **2 Corinthians 4:4** in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

- ^{NAS} **Colossians 2:9** For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,
- ^{NAS} **Isaiah 7:14** "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.
- ^{NIV} **Titus 2:13** while we wait for the blessed hope-- the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,
- ^{NAS} **1 John 5:20** And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding, in order that we might know Him who is true, and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

The Fullness of God

- Creator of all, v.3
- Source and giver of life, v.4,12
- The true light, v.4,9
- Full of glory, v.14
- Source of grace and truth, v.14,17

The Fullness of Christ in Us

Children of God

- **NAS John 1:14** And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- **NAS John 1:12** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, ¹³ who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- **NAS John 1:16** For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

Hope of Glory

- ^{ESV} **Colossians 1:27** To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.
- ^{NAS} **2 Peter 1:4** For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature ...
- ^{NAS} **1 John 3:2** Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is.

Conclusions

Children Now

- ^{NAS} **John 1:12** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, ¹³ who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- ^{NAS} **John 1:16** For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

Work in Progress

- ^{NAS} **1 John 3:2** Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is.
- ^{NAS} **2 Corinthians 3:18** But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.
- ^{NIV} **2 Corinthians 4:7** But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

Progress in Work

- **NAS Philippians 2:12** So then, my beloved ... work out your salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.
- **NAS Ephesians 3:20** Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, ²¹ to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

Blueprint for Progress

- ^{NAS} **Ephesians 3:14** For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father...¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man; ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.