

Live In Jesus Christ
International Bible Lesson
Colossians 2:6-15
Sunday, February 10, 2013
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

“As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving” (Colossians 2:6, 7—KJV).

“Since you have accepted Christ Jesus as Lord, live in union with him. Keep your roots deep in him, build your lives on him, and become stronger in your faith, as you were taught. And be filled with thanksgiving” (Colossians 2:6, 7—GNB).

“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving” (Colossians 2:6, 7—NRSV).

The Bible reveals that God the Father transfers believers from the power of darkness into the kingdom of Christ Jesus the Lord. Jesus Christ changes those in His kingdom from living hostile to God and doing evil deeds to living holy and blameless and irreproachable before God. To continue steadfast in the faith and hope promised in the good news about Jesus Christ, believers must continue to live in Jesus Christ. To live in Christ, they must choose to live surrounded by Jesus Christ and remain in the circle of His love, influence, and power. Furthermore, they must choose to follow Jesus and do what He says as revealed in the Bible, much as an airline passenger must remain inside an airplane flying at 30,000 feet and trust the pilot to land safely at their destination.

The Bible teaches believers to send down their spiritual roots deeply into Christ Jesus and the truth, much as some trees send down their roots so they can withstand the strongest storms. Those who follow Jesus Christ must allow Him to build them into the trustworthy person He wants them to become in loving service to God and others. By choosing to think deeply about the meaning and application of the Bible’s teachings, believers can avoid being taken “captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ” (Colossians 2:8). When we think of all God does for us, we can always abound in thanksgiving.

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Thinking Further

1. How can the study of philosophy or human traditions be harmful? How can the study of philosophy or human traditions be helpful?
2. What are some differences between trusting in philosophy and trusting in the Scriptures?
3. How might the “elemental spirits of the universe” mislead someone or take someone captive?
4. What are some of the ways that Jesus Christ is different from someone indwelt by an elemental spirit of the universe?
5. As Christians, what are some of the ways that we should live differently from those who are not Christians?