

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** How to Walk in the Spirit

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Colossians 2:1-10

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #2324

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The first ten verses of Colossians 2 teach us how to live victoriously in the Christian life, and it is very simple.
  - i) The Bible says that God preserves the simple.
    - (1) Psalm 116:6
  - ii) An ordinary person who is surrendered to the Lord can understand how to live the victorious life.
    - (1) We don't have to have a Ph.D.
    - (2) We don't have to learn Greek or Hebrew.
    - (3) It has been said that the Bible is such a wonderful book.
      - (a) It is shallow enough that a little child can come and get a drink without fear of drowning.
      - (b) It is so deep that the scholars can swim in it and never touch the bottom.
- b) Colossians 2:1-10
  - i) In verse one, "conflict" means that Paul had a deep concern for those in Colossae.
  - ii) Paul says that there is an incredible treasure for us.
    - (1) Colossians 2:3
    - (2) This treasure is in Jesus.
    - (3) In Him, we are complete.
      - (a) We don't have to look for anything else.
    - (4) All the treasure is in the Lord Jesus Christ; it is hidden in Christ.
      - (a) God hid the treasure so that we could have the joy of discovering it.
    - (5) The treasure is available, and it is all for us.
    - (6) We have to discover and appropriate our treasure.
- c) The devil will do everything he can to keep us from hearing this message.
  - i) Don't let him steal it away.
  - ii) Colossians 2:4
  - iii) Colossians 2:8
  - iv) The devil wants to keep us from understanding the blessing that we can have in the Lord Jesus Christ.
    - (1) He wants us to believe that it is absurd that all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are in Christ.
      - (a) That is exactly the lie that he told in the Garden of Eden.
      - (b) He wants us to believe that we must get outside the will of God to discover all that we can have and know.
    - (c) There are some who believe that once we receive the Lord Jesus that we have to go on and get a second blessing.
      - (i) But in Jesus, we have everything.
      - (ii) Colossians 2:10
- d) There is more and more to learn about the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - i) We can go deeper into Jesus, but we will never go beyond Jesus.
    - (1) It's not Jesus plus...

- (2) It's Jesus completely and totally.
- e) In Jesus, we are complete.
  - i) Colossians 2:10
  - ii) When a person is complete, what else do they need?
- f) The key and the secret of finding everything in the Lord Jesus Christ and letting everything in the Lord Jesus express itself through our life and living victoriously is found in Colossians 2:6.
  - i) God the Holy Spirit wants to inhabit our human spirit.
  - ii) Our human spirit is to speak to our mind, emotion, and will (which is our soul).
  - iii) Our mind, emotion, and will is to motivate and drive our body out in this world as we walk the Christian walk and live the Christian life.
- g) In today's message, we will learn four things about how to walk in the Spirit.

## 2) THE CIRCUMFERENCE OF THE WALK

- a) Colossians 2:6
  - i) Paul didn't say that we are to walk "after" the Spirit or walk "with" the Spirit.
  - ii) He said that we are to walk "in" the Spirit.
    - (1) The Spirit is the sphere or the territory of our walk.
      - (a) When someone walks inside a building, the parameters of the building are to contain their walk.
        - (i) The building would be the boundaries and circumference of their walk.
      - (2) The natural man does not want to walk in the Spirit.
        - (a) The natural man does not want to feel hemmed in; he wants more.
        - (b) He wants more because he doesn't understand Colossians 2:2-3.
- b) We are to walk in the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - i) There is nothing worth having outside of Jesus.
    - (1) If we have to transgress the law of God to have something, then we don't need it.
    - (2) Everything that we need, He will supply.
      - (a) Philippians 4:19
  - ii) Jesus is the circumference of our walk.
- c) We are to have a certain boundary in our lives.
  - i) Colossians 3:15
    - (1) The word "rule" here means "a referee" or "a judge."
  - ii) The Holy Spirit is the referee.
    - (1) If we get out of bounds, then He blows the whistle.
  - iii) Someone who has been walking with the Lord very long knows exactly when they step out of bounds.
    - (1) They lose their peace.
      - (a) We know we are out of fellowship with God when we don't have peace.

- (2) Let the peace of God referee in your heart.
- d) If we can't have it in Jesus, then we don't need it.

### 3) THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE WALK (COLOSSIANS 2:6)

- a) We begin a walk by taking the first step.
- b) Colossians 2:6
- c) We start the walk by receiving Jesus Christ.
  - i) Walking begins with a step.
  - ii) The first step to walk in the Spirit is to receive Christ Jesus the Lord.
    - (1) You can't begin the Christian walk until you receive Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord.
- d) There are some who have not received Christ.
  - i) Some have received a creed, but we're not saved by a creed.
    - (1) Some may know the plan of salvation.
      - (a) A person can know the plan of salvation and still go to Hell.
      - (b) We are not saved by the plan of salvation.
        - (i) We are saved by the Man of salvation.
    - ii) Salvation is not a code.
      - (1) Some will say that they obey the rules of the Bible and serve the Lord.
        - (a) You may just be a Pharisee on the road to Hell.
    - iii) Salvation is not a cause.
      - (1) We can work ourselves to death in the church.
      - (2) Matthew 7:22-23
        - (a) This passage of Scripture is talking about the Judgment Day.
        - (b) These are not people who had salvation and lost it.
          - (i) They never had it.
    - iv) Salvation is not a church.
      - (1) Being a member of a Bible-believing church and being baptized into the fellowship of that church will not save you.
      - (2) Our churches are full of people who can relate to programs, music, activities, and social ability.
        - (a) But the commencement of the walk and to live victoriously is to receive Jesus Christ as Lord.

### 4) THE CHARACTER OF THE WALK

- a) Colossians 2:6
- b) When we walk in the Spirit, we walk in the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - i) Christ is Lord.
  - ii) He demands and deserves absolute control of our lives.
  - iii) When we walk in the Lord, we are under new management.
- c) Colossians 1:10
- d) 1 John 2:6
- e) When we are walking in the Spirit, our lives are to manifest the life of the Lord Jesus Christ.

- i) Others ought to see Jesus in us.
- f) The character of the Lord Jesus Christ is the character of our walk.
  - i) Colossians 2:6
  - ii) To walk in the Spirit is to be like the Lord Jesus Christ.
- g) Colossians 2:12
  - i) Baptism is a funeral.
    - (1) The old person we used to be is dead and buried with Christ by baptism.
    - (2) As Jesus came out of the grave to a new, abundant life, He took our sins and carried them to the grave of His forgetfulness.
    - (3) Our sins are buried with Christ in baptism, and then we are raised to walk "in newness of life."
      - (a) Romans 6:4
- h) Is the genuine life of the Lord Jesus Christ manifested in you?
  - i) When God the Holy Spirit comes to the human spirit, the human spirit speaks to our mind, emotion, and will, motivating our body to walk as Jesus Christ walked.
    - (1) And Jesus Christ is going to be the Lord of our life.
      - (a) In the New Testament, Jesus is called Savior 24 times, and He is called Lord 434 times.
        - (i) This ought to tell us something.

## 5) THE CONTINUATION OF THE WALK

- a) Colossians 2:6
  - i) The word "walk" here literally means to keep on walking.
- b) Many people are looking back to an experience.
  - i) In a walk, there must be a commencement, but that is only one step.
  - ii) We have to keep on walking.
- c) We are not saved because we keep on walking; we keep on walking because we are saved.
  - i) There is a continuation of walking in the Lord.
- d) Walking is a series of steps.
  - i) If we take one step and don't take another step, then we can't stand.
    - (1) The only thing we can do is to put both feet down at the same time because when we walk, we are off balance.
  - ii) But as we continue to walk, the balance is maintained.
    - (1) But we can't step and stop unless we stand.
      - (a) If we stand, then we're stuck.
  - iii) We are to walk and not stand.
  - iv) One step has to follow another step.
- e) What does it mean to walk?
  - i) Colossians 2:6
  - ii) We receive Jesus by repentance and faith.
  - iii) We walk in repentance and faith.

- (1) We repent of our sin and put our faith in Jesus.
- (2) These are the first two steps: repentance and faith.
- (3) We walk exactly the way that we receive Jesus.
- (4) The way to live the Christian life is the way we got the Christian life.
  - (a) By repentance and faith.
- f) We do far more repenting after we get saved than we do when we got saved, and we trust Jesus more after we are saved than we did when we got saved.
  - i) When we are saved, we give all we know of ourselves to all we know of Jesus.
    - (1) We know very little about either one when we are first saved.
- g) We don't have to know a lot of theology in order to be saved.
  - i) Romans 14:1
    - (1) One translation says that we are to receive a brother into the church even if he scarcely believes Christ can save him.
      - (a) God takes weak faith.
        - (i) It is not strong faith that saves us; it is our strong Savior who saves us.
        - (ii) Put your faith, whatever it is, in the Lord Jesus Christ and trust Him; and He will save you.
      - ii) He will start with you where you are.
  - h) When God convicts us of a particular sin, we need to repent and put our faith in Christ; and He will reveal Himself to us.
    - i) We just go through life one step at a time repenting and trusting, repenting and trusting.
    - ii) We will not stop repenting until the rapture, if we are walking in the Spirit.
      - (1) We will never reach the place in our Christian life where we don't need to repent.
      - (2) Someone who says that they don't need to repent any more is not walking in the light.
        - (a) The closer we get to the Lord, the more imperfections we will see in our life.
    - iii) If we walk in repentance and faith, then we will discover the treasures that are in the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - i) Repentance is turning from self; faith is turning to Jesus.
    - i) The more we turn from ourselves and the more we turn to the Lord Jesus Christ, the more real He will be to us.
    - ii) This is the way to live the Christian life and to walk in the Spirit.
  - j) There are too many Christians who are looking back to some experience they had long ago rather than walking in the Lord.

## 6) CONCLUSION

- a) It is a very simple thing.
  - i) You come to the Lord and take the first two steps of repentance and faith.

- ii) He will begin to walk and to work in you.
- b) As you continue to walk, turning from self (repentance) and turning to Him (faith), your life will begin to progress.
  - i) And you will become more and more like the Lord Jesus Christ.
- c) Then, you will discover those treasures that are in Colossians 2:3.
  - i) You will know that all the treasures are in Him.
    - (1) And in Him, you are complete.
- d) Once you do that, it is the cure for self-consciousness, the cure for greed, the cure for competition, and the cure for comparison.
  - i) You are complete in Him.
- e) You can go deeper and deeper into Him, but you will never go beyond Him.
- f) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- g) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16