

Complete in Christ

Col 2:8-10

8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

10 **And ye are complete in him**, which is the head of all principality and power:
KJV

There are missions in life in which it is not good for man to be alone.

Adam needed Eve to have a family.

Jesus sent his disciples out two by two.

We need everyone's spiritual gifts to fulfill the mission of the church.

The mission of prayer is more effective when two or more agree.

There are few missions in life that God intends for us to fulfill alone.

With this in mind, it would be appropriate to say, "I need you!"

But one of the most powerful scriptures in the bible is this verse that says ye are complete in Him.

10 **And ye are complete in him**, which is the head of all principality and power:
KJV

And based on this promise, I want to say with this in mind that it would be appropriate for any Christian to say to everyone, "I do not need you!"

To be complete and to feel complete as a person, you do not need anyone other than Christ.

I want to show that few Christians believe this promise.

God created us with a vacuum. That vacuum is our basic needs. Our basic physical needs are food and covering.

We also have basic needs for life in our soul.

One of those needs is the need to be loved!

Knowing we are loved meets two other basic needs in our soul.

Knowing we are loved....

- Makes us feel significant
- Makes us feel secure.

To be complete means we are loved. To feel complete we must know we are loved.

God in Christ has met this basic need. He has filled the vacuum. It feels good to be loved by others but we do not need their love to make us complete. Christ is all we need.

There are only a few Christians that believe this. For those that do believe it, most do not benefit from the promise. It is good theology but it has very little effect on their lives.

You are not benefiting from the promise if....

You are easily offended.

You are depressed.

You are controlling.

You are manipulative.

You are discontent with who you are.

You are discontent with what you have.

You are comparing yourself with others.

You are controlled by peer pressure.

You are displaying your good works to be praised by men.

You are boy crazy.

You are girl crazy.

You are quick to speak and to judge others.

You are fearful of aging.

You are competitive when no one is playing.

You are willing to do eccentric changes to your appearance to make yourself feel special.

You are fearful of being abandoned or deserted.

You are grieving without hope.

You may be saved and complete in Christ, but if you are suffering from any of the above, you are not benefiting from the promise. It may be a part of your theology and you may sing about it at church, but the fruit of your life reveals that the promise is not real to you.

Since you are not filling the vacuum God's way, you fill the vacuum your own way or the world's way. This always leads to unnecessary sorrow and suffering. The bible calls it empty cisterns.

Christian teens turn to peer groups to know and feel love. This leads to many immature and unwise decisions with destructive consequences. I have known many a teen ager who became a rebel to make him self or her self feel loved by others. It is amazing how a group of rebellious teens that all look alike are quick to declare that they have to be their own person.

Many cruise from one dating relationship to another in their attempt to make themselves feel complete. They are always looking for someone who will fill their vacuum and make them feel loved. The music they listen to and the things that they view reveals their need and their intentions.

For those who date, most compromise morally. Most will eventually move on to another. They eventually marry to fill this vacuum. They then have children to complete what

their marriage could not do for them. They divorce and remarry to complete what their first marriage and children could not do for them. They move from church to church to complete what the last church could not do for them.

Some turn to a career. Some seek fame or fortune. Others pursue a consuming habit or hobby. Some even turn to plastic surgery or extreme obsessions in attempt to make them self more lovable.

To what and where Christians turn to make themselves complete and to feel loved depends on what they believe will fulfill their need to be complete. It is amazing what people will do in their attempt to make themselves feel loved.

When you look to others rather than Christ to make yourself complete, you always make other people miserable. Those who remain your friend are either dependent upon you or they are a committed Christians that feels called to love you.

Now I want to urge you to believe the promise and practice what you believe. If you have received Christ, you are complete in Christ. Christ has met your need for love once and for all. There is nothing that can separate you from His love. Your knowledge of His love can increase and grow. You can draw from His love any time you feel the need for it. To be complete and to feel complete as a person, you do not need anyone or anything other than Christ.

And you will feel the need for it especially when you experience fiery trials. We all suffer these trials at one time or another.

Being complete in Christ is the promise you need most when you fail to reach your goals. You disappoint others and yourself.

Being complete in Christ is the promise you need most when you are disappointed by the failures of others.

Being complete in Christ is the promise you need most when we lose your health and your strength.

Being complete in Christ is the promise you need most when you face your impending death.

Being complete in Christ is the promise you need most when the people you love most leave you.

To be complete in Christ is not something that you do, it is something that you are. To be complete in Christ is not something that you can change, it is something that you can forget or neglect or never learn. To be complete in Christ, is not something that you can fake or imitate, it is something that you must believe and practice

To be complete in Christ enables you to be content in such things as you have and in whatever state you are. To be complete in Christ enables you to stand alone when others will not stand with you. To be complete in Christ enables you to be indiscriminate and impartial. To be complete in Christ enables you to have hope for the future when what was your future has departed. To be complete in Christ enables you to face every circumstance without being carried away by sudden terrors. To be complete in Christ enables you to smile at the future. To be complete in Christ enables you to forgive your friends and your enemies who hurt you and even when they falsely accuse you. To be complete in Christ enables you to be difficult to offend. To be complete in Christ enables you to respond in kindness to those who are insensitive to your needs or your desires. To be complete in Christ frees you from the pain of rejection and frees you to love those who reject you.

Do you believe the promise? Are you drawing from the well?

If you believe the promise then in Christ you live and move and have your being. Christ has provided everything you need according to His riches in glory and you are experiencing that provision in your soul. Christ has given you all things that pertain to life and godliness and your life is found in Him. You do not need anyone or anything else to know you are significant and secure. Your emotions and your mind can tell you something other than the truth, but you know the truth and you let the truth steady your emotions and your mind. You are complete in Christ and you are experiencing it.

Perhaps you have drawn from that well in the past. You believed that you were complete in Christ and you were drawing from Him to make you feel complete and loved.

But something happened and you entered into unbelief. Perhaps it was just neglect. Perhaps it was a fiery trial.

You have now experienced the emptiness and the vanity of drawing from other cisterns. You now want to repent of your unbelief. You want to repent for turning to your self-made idols that are powerless to make you complete.

He stands at the door of your heart and knocks. He is willing to forgive. He is willing to redeem you. He is willing to rebuild the waist places in your life. He is willing to fill your vacuum. You can feel complete in Him again.

But you must stop looking to others to make you complete. You must only look to Christ in the same way that you only look to Him for salvation. Christ is all you need!