

Program: SS Panel 2026 1 Q

Quarterly title: Uniting Heaven and Earth: Christ In Philippians & Colossians

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Lesson Title: #10 Complete in Christ

Day Title: Sunday - The Wisdom and Knowledge of God

For Lesson Dates: Date Here, 2026

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Note: This color and font = quarterly text

Note: This color and font = John Dinzey notes

John Dinzey.2026.Q1. L10. The Wisdom and Knowledge of God

Next Week: #11 Living With Christ

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Question:

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READ

NIL: Not in Lesson

Lesson 10

*February 28–March 6

Complete in Christ

SABBATH AFTERNOON

Read for This Week's Study: Colossians 2; Heb. 7:11; Isa. 61:3; 1 Cor. 3:6; Deut. 31:24–26; Rom. 2:28, 29; Rom. 7:7.

Memory Text: "So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ" (Colossians 2:16, 17, NKJV).

Have you ever been asked why you keep the Sabbath?

Perhaps even this week's memory text was used as "evidence" against it. Yet the text was written not about the fourth commandment, but in response to errors taught by some false teachers in the church. What were these errors?

First, **the false teaching is described as "philosophy," "the tradition of men," "the basic principles of the world," and "not according to Christ"** (Col. 2:8, NKJV).

It also involved circumcision and the keeping of Jewish festivals (Col. 2:11, 16), along with Jewish purity rituals and regulations connected with food (Col. 2:16, 21). It involved the worship of angels or an attempt to emulate angelic worship (Col. 2:18).

And, finally, it was based on "the commandments and doctrines of men" and possibly involved ascetic practices (Col. 2:22, 23).

These false teachers were clearly religious and sincere, but they also got the gospel wrong. This week we'll see why. And we will see why the memory verse has nothing to do with our keeping the seventh-day Sabbath.

**Study this week's lesson to prepare for Sabbath, March 7.*

SUNDAY

March 1

The Wisdom and Knowledge of God

Job asked, "Where can wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding?" (Job 28:12, NKJV). **Paul answers: in Christ, "in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge"** (Col. 2:3, NKJV; compare 1 Cor. 1:30). If we have Christ, we have everything, even the "full assurance of understanding" the purpose of life (Col. 2:2, NKJV). Through Him the mystery of God, which embraces the entire plan of salvation, has been revealed.

Read Colossians 2:1–7. What is Paul's purpose in writing this epistle?

Colossians 2:1 1 For I want you to know what a great conflict I have for you and those in Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh, **2** that

their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and *attaining* to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ,

Colossians 2:3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Barnes

All the treasures - It is common to compare any thing valuable with “treasures” of silver or gold. The idea here is, that in reference to the wisdom and knowledge needful for us, Christ is what abundant treasures are in reference to the supply of our wants.

Wisdom - The wisdom needful for our salvation. Notes, [1Co 1:24](#).

And knowledge - The knowledge which is requisite to guide us in the way to life. Christ is able to instruct us in all that it is desirable for us to know, so that it is not necessary for us to apply to philosophy, or to the teachings of human beings.

[Isa 45:11](#) Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.

Colossians 2:4 Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words.

Colossians 2:5 For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your *good* order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

6 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

7 rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

READ

The Greek word *paraklēthōsin* means “encouraged” or “strengthened” (*Col. 2:2*). Paul’s desire is not only to help the believers in Colossae recognize false teachings but also to unite them in Christian love. The tense used for both verbs indicates Paul’s confidence that this epistle will achieve its intended purpose.

He, did, however, commend them for “your good order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ” (*Col. 2:5, NKJV*).

The Greek term *taxis*, translated “order,” is used in the New Testament in reference to the priestly orders of Aaron (*Luke 1:8, Heb. 7:11*) and Melchizedek (*Heb.*

5:6, 10, NKJV; Heb. 6:20, NKJV; Heb. 7:11, 17, NKJV), but Paul applies it to order in the church (1 Cor. 14:40), including here. Sometimes there is a tendency to consider church order and organization as merely an ecclesiastical institution with no theological significance.

But by prescribing proper decorum in worship (see, for example, *1 Corinthians 11*), and specifying how elders and deacons should be selected (*1 Timothy 3*, *Titus 1*), Paul was very careful to preserve order in the church. Through these measures, God's wisdom and the teachings of the Bible are preserved and promulgated.

As a result of the correct teaching that the Colossians had received from Paul's associates, they had "steadfastness" of faith. It cannot be shaken because it rests on a solid biblical foundation that, if adhered to, would help protect them from the errors being promoted by the false teachers.

What has been your experience with the need for "order" in your own spiritual life?

[illegible]

Additional Notes

When the soul surrenders itself to Christ, a new power takes possession of the new heart. A change is wrought which man can never accomplish for himself. It is a supernatural work, bringing a supernatural element into human nature. The soul that is yielded to Christ becomes His own fortress, which He holds in a revolted world, and He intends that no authority shall be known in it but His own. A soul thus kept in possession by the heavenly agencies is impregnable to the assaults of Satan. But unless we do yield ourselves to the control of Christ, we shall be dominated by the wicked one. We must inevitably be under the control of the one or the other of the two great powers that are contending for the supremacy of the world. It is not necessary for us deliberately to choose the service of the kingdom of darkness in order to come under its dominion. We have only to neglect to ally ourselves with the kingdom of light. If we do not co-operate with the heavenly agencies, Satan will take possession of the heart, and will make it his abiding place. The only defense against evil is the indwelling of Christ in the heart through faith in His righteousness. Unless we become vitally connected with God, we can never resist the unhallowed effects of self-love, self-indulgence, and temptation to sin. We may leave off many bad habits, for the time we may part company with Satan; but without a vital connection with God, through the

surrender of ourselves to Him moment by moment, we shall be overcome. Without a personal acquaintance with Christ, and a continual communion, we are at the mercy of the enemy, and shall do his bidding in the end. . DA 324.1

God fixes no limit to the advancement of those who desire to be “filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.” Through prayer, through watchfulness, through growth in knowledge and understanding, they are to be “strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power.” Thus they are prepared to work for others. It is the Saviour’s purpose that human beings, purified and sanctified, shall be His helping hand. For this great privilege let us give thanks to Him who “hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son.”. AA 478.3