

"As Ye Have Received"

Scripture Lesson:; Clossians 2:1-10

Text:- Col:- 2:6.

Introduction:- It is a wonderful thing to become a Christian. Some find their life's work when they become Christians. Others would have us believe that life just now has become worth living. To all it is a great experience, an experience which grows richer, and fuller as the years roll by.

We have here in our text the way one should walk if he would reach the fulness of the Christian way.

I.

"As ye received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him". This means, "let your active life be in accord with what you learned and obtained when you first became Christians." The main force lies upon the word "as". The command is to order all life in accordance with its early lessons.

It is from our first teachers that we learned about Christ. So, what we hear from human teachers, from human lips, we hear the gospel and accept the gospel, it is not merely the word about the Savior, but the Savior himself. Christ is the Savior, he himself comes in a spiritual and real presence, and dwells in the spirit.

You received Christ Jesus as Lord. As Lord of your life. He is Lord of all. You have him for your very own. Hold fast that which you have, and let no man take him from you.

II.

"Rooted and built up in Him". The Christian life is to "walk", "to be rooted like a tree" and to "be built up like a house".

The Christian has been rooted in Christ Jesus at the beginning of his Christian life. His faith has brought him into living contact with the Savior. He is the contact who puts us into

the fruitful soil into which the believer sends his roots and both feeds and anchors there. We are rooted by faith in Christ, or we are like the chaff rootless and profitless, swept at last by the wind from the threshing floor. The choice is before every man, either to be rooted in Christ by faith, or to be rootless.

"Being built up in Him". The little word "up" is the chief word here. We are the architects of our own characters. We may build holy lives and lives which shall be temples. Effort and continuous labor must be put forth. This choice too is before all men, "to build on Christ and so to build for eternity, or on sand and to be crushed below the ruins of their fallen houses.

"Stablished in the faith". A progressive increase of our faith in the condition of all Christian progress. Its range can be enlarged, its tenacity increased, its power ~~is~~ ever heats and life reinforced. The eyes of faith may become long-sighted its grip so close that it may be tightened and its realization may be made more substantial. Strengthen faith and you strengthen all graces; for it measures our reception of Divine help.

Progress in the Christian life does not consist in dropping the early truths for newer wisdom & more speculative religion, but in discovering even deeper and larger powers, which are the highest lesson we can learn.

III.

"Abounding therein with thanksgiving". Being thankful will bind us to God as nothing else will. The highest nobleness of which man is capable is reached when, moved by the mercies of God, we yield ourselves a living sacrifice, thank-offerings to Him who yielded Himself as a sin offering for us. The noblest offering we can bring, the only recompense which Christ asks is that our hearts and lives should say, "We thank thee, O Lord!" By Him, therefore, let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God constantly and the continual thanksgiving will ensure continuous growth in our Christian experience and our Christian character and will increase in the

strength and depth of our faith.

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