Paul’s Prayer For the Colossians
Col. 1:9-12

Introduction:
A. Paul prayed for others (v. 9; 2 Thess. 1:11)
B. Paul asked others to pray for him (2 Thess. 3:1)
C. Christians need to pray for each others physical and spiritual welfare (3 John 2)
D. Paul prayed for Colossians’ spiritual progress in three areas:

Discussion:

I. He Prayed For Their Knowledge (vs. 9,10)
A. Knowledge coupled with wisdom and understanding.
   1. Knowledge through hearing and studying.
   2. Wisdom and spiritual understanding through experience of application.
B. Knowledge of “his will” is priceless. (Phil. 3:8; Hos. 6:6; 2 Pet. 2:20; Rom. 10:1-4).
C. Knowledge needs increasing. (2 Pet. 3:18; 2 Tim. 2:15; Acts 17:11; Heb. 5:12-14)
D. Knowledge of little value without works. (Jas 1:25)

II. He Prayed For Their Works (v. 10; cf. 1 Cor. 15:58).
A. Works good only if please God. (v. 10; cf. Gal. 1:10).
B. Works good only if lawful. (Matt. 7:21-24).
C. Works good only if done by authorized persons at authorized places.
   1. Public preaching is a good work - but not for women.
   2. Hand or foot washing a good work - not as worship. (Matt. 15:9; 1 Tim. 5:10).
   3. Social meals are good works - not for the church. (1 Cor. 11:22,34).

III. He Prayed For Their Attitudes. (v. 11)
A. “Patience” — Not easily discouraged.
B. “Longsuffering” — God is perfect example. (1 Pet. 3:20, 21; 2 Pet. 3:9-10).
C. “Joy“ — (cf. Phil. 4:4,11-13; Psa. 51:12).
   2. Joy is not proof of salvation, but a fruit of it (Acts 7:41; Gal. 5:22)

Conclusion:
A. Let us pray for these things for self and brethren.
B. Let us work for these things as we pray for them. (cf. Mt. 6:11; 2 Thess. 3:10).
C. Let us pray for your salvation (Rom. 10:1); but you must obey.