

“Fullness” Found in Paul’s Letter to the Colossians #3

Introduction: The established Biblical doctrine that a Christian is at any present state of time having been made complete in Christ is not taught, believed, or utilized by most churches. Thus, endless legalistic works systems, clouds of un-Scriptural guilt, and immature defeat Christians flourish, dishonoring the gracious heavenly Father, the work of Christ, and the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Colossians 2:10 communicates a constant Christian completeness, provide graciously by the Triune God; “you are complete in Him...”

1. **“and you”** – Col. 2:10a

- A. “and” is a conjunction, tying verse ten back to Col. 2:9.
- B. Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and all the fullness of the Godhead always is settled down and complete in Him bodily, verse 9.
- C. The Christian is complete in Christ as (similar to) Christ’s completeness.
- D. “Ye” is a plural, (“you all”), indicating each individual is *equally* complete in Christ. Thus, it is not referring to the completeness of Christ, but the equality of this completeness imputed to each Christian in the Christ. There is no disparity in Christ, for all in Christ are imputed equally the full capacity of the Christ, *i.e.* the new man, the new creation. “The Christ” and all in “the Christ” are complete.

2. **“are complete”** – Col. 2:10b

- A. This construction is a Greek perfect periphrastic - cp. Eph. 2:8
- B. The Christian is always presently complete in Christ, based on the completeness that was established in the past, Eph. 1:5; Rom. 8:15, 23, 19.
- C. This is a passive perfect periphrastic, thus the completeness in Christ is performed by another, *ie the Triune God*, Matt. 28:18, 19.
- E. This completeness is new, only provided to the New Testament saint. Christian completeness in Christ is totally unlike anything provided by God for Pre-Old Testament Saints, Old Testament Saints, and Tribulation Saints, Dan. 12:1-4; Matt. 13:43; Heb. 12:23.
- D. God the Father is the ultimate source of this completeness, Eph. 1:4.
- E. God the Son is the intermediate agent of this completeness, Gal. 1:4; 1 Cor. 11:32; Heb. 7:25.

F. God the Holy Spirit is the direct agent (instrument) of this completeness, Eph. 1:13, 14.

3. ***“in Him”*** - Col. 2:10c

A. In Him is the imputation of God, Rom. 6:11.

B. Completeness in Him related to the Carnal Christian, Heb. 12:6, 7; Eph. 5:14.

C. Completeness in Him related to the Spiritual Christian, Col. 3:1-17.

D. Completeness in Him related to the Maturing Christian, Phil. 3:10-14.

E. Completeness in Him related to the Departed Christian, 1 Th. 4:14, 15.

F. Completeness in Him related to the Christian under trials, Rom. 8:35-39.

G. Completeness in Him related to the Christian under temptation, James 1:12-15.

1) Lusts from the flesh (the sin nature), Gal. 5:16, 19-21 (note the change to the works from the flesh).

2) Lusts from Satan, John 8:44

3) Lust from the World System, 1 John 2:16, 17; 1 Cor. 7:29-31.

Conclusion: Completeness in Christ is confirmed even if not known, believed, or utilized by the born again Christian. However, the truth of Christian completeness in Christ is necessary for the Christian living righteously in the Dispensation of Grace the one in/by Faith.