

The Book of Colossians

8

Morning Devotions

In your devotions this morning, read **Psalm 118** one more time. This time, note **verse 26** and how this was fulfilled in the coming of Jesus (see **Matthew 21:9**). As you read, talk to the Lord about the content of this psalm. When you have finished, go back and find one or two verses and meditate prayerfully on them. Notice how God will speak to you in a completely different way this morning, even though this is the third time that we've read this psalm.

Morning Study

This morning we are going to look at the second section of Colossians – **1:24-2:7**. It divides again into three subsections. Read each subsection, answering for yourself the questions associated with them. Type out your answers or jot them down on a piece of paper and file your answers with your morning study.

Read Colossians 1:24-29

- Where does Paul say was the lack in regard to Christ's afflictions that he was "filling up" for the sake of the Church? (**1:24**).
- What is the mystery that had been hidden for generations but is now disclosed to the saints? (**1:25-27**).
- In **1:28-29**, what does Paul say was his goal of ministry?

Read Colossians 2:1-5

- Why was Paul "struggling with all [Christ's] energy" (**1:29; 2:1**) for them to be "encouraged in heart and united in love"? (**2:2**).
- Where are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge hidden? (**2:2-3**).
- In **2:4**, what does Paul say he was trying to guard them against?

Read Colossians 2:5-7

- What were two things about the Colossians that delighted Paul? (**2:5**).
- How were they to continue to live in Christ? (**2:6**).
- Name the four specific things that Paul says he wants them to continue in? (**2:7**).

MEMORY VERSE

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

Colossians 2:6-7

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!