## Walk in Christ (continued)

Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your [the] faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude [thanksgiving]. (Colossians 2:6-7)

In Colossians 2:6, Paul told the Colossian brethren (and us) that they should walk in Christ because of their salvation in Christ (they had *received* and been accepted in Christ the moment they believed the gospel of salvation—Romans 5:11; 8:14-17; Ephesians 1:6). Therefore, I believe that the exhortation to walk in Christ is the same as our instruction (command) to walk worthy of, or as befitting, our salvation, which will be very briefly summarized under the following exhortations about walking in a worthy manner.

## Walk Worthy of Our Calling

Therefore I [Paul], the prisoner of the Lord, implore you [brethren] to walk in a manner worthy of the calling [salvation] with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (Ephesians 4:1-3)

The first three chapters of Paul's letter to the Ephesian brethren tells us what God has done for us through Christ and God's eternal plan regarding the message of His grace. Regardless how faithful we may or may not be, every believer is blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ because of our salvation in Him (Ephesians 1:3). The last three chapters of Ephesians tell us how God expects us to live in response to the salvation that He graciously bestowed on us.

## Walk Worthy of Our Lord

For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you [brethren] and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. (Colossians 1:9-10)

Brethren, we need to know and understand what God has done for us to understand, and do, what He expects of us. Too often believers are in search of the will of God for their lives, but He has already revealed His will through His word (II Timothy 3:16-17). If we walk worthy of our Lord, according to what God has told us to do based on our Lord's work at the cross for us, then we will not only be living lives that are pleasing to God and our Lord Jesus Christ but living in such a way that will bear fruit in every good work. We are ambassadors for Christ and should represent Him accordingly (II Corinthians 5:20-21).

But whatever things were gain to me [Paul], those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law [of Moses], but that which is through faith in [the faith of] Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His

resurrection and the fellowship of His suffering, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. (Philippians 3:7-11)

"I [Paul] have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in [the faith of] the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me." (Galatians 2:20)

## Walk Worthy of God

You are witnesses, and so is God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers; just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children, so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory. (I Thessalonians 2:10-12)

If we walk worthy of our salvation and of our Lord, then we will be walking worthy of God who saved us into His spiritual realm. We need to remember that, beginning at the moment of our salvation, we are in Christ who is at the right hand of God in the heavens—we are citizens of heaven (Ephesians 1:18-21; 2:4-7; Philippians 3:20-21). All believers are children of God, and our behavior reflects on the character of God our Father. Are we walking (behaving) in such a way that properly represents God and brings glory to Him?