

ARE YOU LONGSUFFERING?

You Should Be Because You Have
An Inheritance In Heaven

Colossians 1:11-12

Colossians 1:11

¹¹

(Each individual believer)

strengthened with all power, (Holy Spirit)

according to His glorious might, (His Authority)

**for the purpose of attaining of all steadfastness and
patience; joyously**

**Colossians 1:11 strengthened with all power, (Holy Spirit)
according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all
steadfastness and patience;**

(This Greek word is **makrothumia** which should be correctly translated: **long suffering**—

- 1 To suffer long, with the idea with this fruit of the Holy Spirit you will be able to suffer long without leaving your spiritual life, without leaving the Filling of the Holy Spirit.
- 2 With this quality you will not lose your Faith, your momentum in increasing in the Knowledge of God or of JESUS CHRIST.
- 3 The impact of this fruit of the Holy Spirit you will not lose your fellowship with One Another in family or in the local assembly

.10

- 4 This word differs from *steadfastness* in that this word addresses **people rather than circumstances or things.**
- 5 Since this word is involved with people it is used as the first impact of Spiritual Love in 1 Corinthians 13:4

⁴ **Love is patient, (more correctly) love, Spiritual Love is longsuffering. (and being long suffering,) love is kind *and* is not jealous; love does not brag *and* is not arrogant, .**

- 6 We have noted how things or circumstances. can beat us down, but perhaps for most it is **people**, other people who can really challenge our relationship with JESUS CHRIST and with Holy Spirit. Generally, those closest to us, husbands/wives, parents, children, family members, close friends, **not to mention those people at the church.**

People can really get on our nerves, and because of people we are just going **to leave the church**—which of course reveals you were going to church because of people, not to worship the Lord or grow in the Knowledge of God and the Knowledge of JESUS CHRIST

We noted this in 1 Thessalonians 5:14

¹⁴ **We urge you, brethren, (in the assembly) admonish the**

unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. (This is our word:) **be longsuffering with everyone,**

(This includes the pastor, and the pastors wife, this includes those who work around the assembly, this includes the believers who sits where you like to sit, this includes the believers that you just happen to know lives a sinful life and perhaps, even more challenging, the Self-Righteous legalist in the assembly.

Be longsuffering with each of these, and the more they are a burden to you, or the more you allow them to be a burden to you -the more you should pray for them and for yourselves.)

Why others, (other people in our lives, marriage, family, social, work and church)... why can these people cause us to get out of fellowship with Holy Spirit so quickly and so easily?

Control!

We feel we have to **control** everyone around us.

But as we are going to see ***control*** is an illusion.

- 1 The primary reason why people are such a challenge to our spiritual momentum is that **we cannot control**

them.

- 2 And not being able to control someone can become a deep rooted problem in our lives and in relationships: marriage, family, work, social and of course, church.
- 3 If you are a believer in JESUS CHRIST as Savior, you realized that you were desperately wicked, an enemy of God and in need of Salvation. So you *humbled* yourself to simply believe in JESUS CHRIST as Savior. Remember Faith is opposed to our flesh nature. Our flesh nature does not want to trust God or JESUS CHRIST or the Holy Spirit or even the WORD of GOD. But people, now that we are believers in JESUS CHRIST, we must remember we still possess an ISN (Inherited Sin Nature). And our flesh nature is basically *insecure*. We know we are vulnerable, we know we are insecure, so our flesh nature (Inherited Sin Nature) seeks to **control** the environment and everyone in our lives.
- 4 What we have to realize is that **control is an illusion**.
- 5 We cannot control others, but we are convinced that we can control our own lives. And because we are deceived into thinking we can control ourselves we become most aggravated at others who do not control themselves or do not see things as we see them. and this becomes frustrations, anxieties and moves to anger.

- 6 The strongest test as to whether or not you actually can control yourself is, do you allow others (or things and circumstances) to cause you to quickly move out of the Filling of the Holy Spirit, and seek to make things happen the way you want or do you remain in the Filling of the Holy Spirit, with His peace dominating in your soul, and simply trusting God to work all things together for good?
- 8 SAD (Stress Anxiety Depression), anger, abruptly withdrawing are all attempts to control others. We get so out of persevering in just trusting Him, that we try to control others, get them to do or not do what we want them to do or not do.
- 9 **“Control is an Illusion, Not an Answer”** (Dr. J. J. Luciani) **Faith is the answer** (WORD of GOD)
But Faith calls on us to resist the flesh nature to be in control.

Faith in the HOLY SPIRIT demands that we relinquish all control to the authority of the HOLY SPIRIT (God) and this is something many Christians cannot do.

They just have to have things done in their way.

Whom do you admire?
Those who live by Faith
Or
those who 'seem' to be in control
and
who 'seem' to control everyone else
and
control everything?

This is one of the primary reasons for the love of money
—*'if I had the money I could do things, my way'*—

**LIVING BY FAITH, DAY IN AND DAY OUT,
TRUSTING THE HOLY SPIRIT,
TRUSTING GOD, TO WORK ALL THINGS TOGETHER FOR GOOD,
IS A GREAT CHALLENGE TO *OUR FLESH NATURE,*
*OUR INHERITED SIN NATURE.***

**One lesson you should learn in life is that
life cannot be controlled.**

Since this is a truism, that life cannot be controlled,
what is the answer?

You learned the answer at Salvation...just trust Him.

Faith is the answer!

But oh, believer, be sure your Faith is the Faith God is looking for!

*Not Faith in yourselves, not Faith in your IQ,
not Faith in your ability to control things and people,
but Faith in the one whom God has sent.*

GOD sent His Son for our Eternal Salvation and
GOD sends His Spirit for our daily deliverance and spirituality.

Colossians 1:11

¹¹ **strengthened with all power, according to His glorious
might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience;**

But persevering through things and circumstances and
persevering when you cannot control others does not happen
over night. Walking in the Holy Spirit, living in the Holy Spirit is
totally opposed to our flesh nature, so you have to **'keep at it'**
everyday, all day long.

perhaps you can learn to control yourself...spiritually,
in not allowing others to cause you to stop with your own
spiritual momentum.

Let us take a believer that you just happen to know has a sinful
pattern. (Galatians 6:1)

Ok, first, this is not bothering anyone else—no one else knows,
so, you settle down, go into prayer, close your mouth to others in
the assembly but open your mouth to God in silent prayer.

Pray that the Holy Spirit will convict them; pray that something will happen that will open their eyes and pray that you be **strengthened with all the power of Holy Spirit...to demonstrate longsuffering.**

Oh, and be longsuffering –with joy!
And you can if you are in Holy Spirit.

Now we come to the last phrase in verse 11:

¹¹ **joyously:**
for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience, joyously
In the Greek this is a prepositional phrase:
with joy. This is talking about inner joy, not necessarily ‘bubbling’ overtly.

This is a joy that does not depend on circumstances of life, does not depend on things happening the way you want. This is a joy that does not depend on people doing what you want, being what you want, This is an inner joy that can be there in every circumstances of life and you have this joy regardless of what is going on in your life and regardless of how people act or don't act, how they treat you or mistreat you. That is right, this joy is real and it is inside you.

0001 First this joy is from the Holy Spirit Galatians 5:22-23

²² **But the fruit of the Spirit is love,** (spiritual love)
joy, (inner happiness) **peace,** (inner peace) **patience,**
(makrothumia, perseverance in respect to people)
kindness, (since you are longsuffering you can be kind to everyone.)
goodness, faithfulness, (to God, to walking to please Him.)

23

gentleness, (because you are longsuffering) self-control; against such things there is no law.

(it does not matter who wins the Presidential election in November everyone of you can live a life to please God in the power of the Holy Spirit. **So everyone of you can have this inner joy all the time. It depends on walking, living by Faith in the Holy Spirit.**

0002 The translation should read **steadfastness with joy and joyously being longsuffering.** It is not of the Holy Spirit if while you are waiting, being patient you are angry or agitated. This is not longsuffering with joy. This is not patiently waiting with joy.

Is it possible to have this **joy** while waiting, while persevering, while being longsuffering? Yes, if it is in the power of Holy Spirit.
Colossians 1:11

11

strengthened with all power, (Filled with the Holy Spirit) according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness (in regards to things and circumstances) and longsuffering (in regards to others) with joy.

Persevering daily when things happen in our lives and circumstances do not go our way and we cannot control others, yet we persevere and continue walking in a manner that is worthy of the Lord and we continue to bear fruit that glorifies God, all with an inner joy.

Now in verse 12 Paul gives one of the great motivations to live in the power and leading of the Holy Spirit. One of the great

motivations not to allow circumstances or people to cause you feel anger, fear, jealousy, wanting to just take control...is that motivation is our- Inheritance in Christ.

Colossians 1:12

¹² **giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.**

Question:

Why didn't Paul just say the Holy Spirit in verse 11, instead of **strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might?**

And why not here in verse 12 just say, believers who share in the inheritance of JESUS CHRIST?

The **answer** to these two questions is why so few immediately grasped that this Jesus was the Promised Messiah and why so few today do not grasp the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit in His inspiration of Scriptures often gives outward expression (the Scriptures) to the internal spiritual message separated from common life. This is why JESUS CHRIST spoke in parables—not to make it simple but to express truths where one must rely on the Holy Spirit to grasp what He is saying.

Giving thanks Present Active Participle of a familiar term: **eucharisteo** where we get the term 'Eucharist' for the Lord's

table. It is the habit of so many Christians to complain rather than give thanks for what they have. This includes things and people in their lives.

How often do you thank God for your husband/wife, children,
parents, friends, church, etc...

That for which you give daily thanks – will become important in your life.

Giving thanks is a mental attitude
that should be constantly upon your mind.

Giving thanks to the Father all prayer is addressed to the Father.

Oh, I know there are people who pray to Jesus, there are people who pray to the Holy Spirit. And these people make it sound so pious, so religious, but lets stay with Scripture and theology, why would you not desire to pray to GOD the FATHER? The HOLY SPIRIT came to bring us to JESUS CHRIST, JESUS CHRIST came to bring us to the father, JESUS CHRIST prayed to GOD the FATHER,
so theologically and biblically
all prayer is addressed to GOD the FATHER.

All prayer is addressed to the Father,
now, for what do we pray?
For what do we give thanks.

We are to give thanks for those in our lives, husband/wife, family, Bible teachers and those who love the WORD of GOD.

We are to give thanks to God for **His grace**, which is what Paul is doing right here in verse 12.

GOD the FATHER qualifies us, believers in JESUS CHRIST to be sharers or partakers of the inheritance we have in JESUS CHRIST.

constantly giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us

This Greek word means to make us able, or sufficient, or worthy. This is an Aorist Participle which means this happens before we share in the inheritance.

**When does God make us qualified
to share in this eternal inheritance?**

At the point of Salvation.

Oh, I know there are believers who are so sure they are so wonderful, that they are qualified by their own doing.

But please never leave the Grace of God.

By His grace we are saved;

**By His grace we are made worthy to share for all eternity
this inheritance.**

Paul expresses what our thinking should be in 2 Corinthians 3:5

⁵ **Not that we are adequate (sufficient, worthy) in ourselves (by anything we do) **to consider anything** (any worthiness) **as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God,****

Arrogance is one of the greatest problems with so many Christians. This was Satan's first sin and what caused him to lead a rebellion against God in the **ANGELIC CONFLICT**.

Ezekiel 28:17

¹⁷ **"Your heart was lifted up (became arrogant) because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor.**

(His arrogance corrupted his beauty and his wisdom.)

I (who created you) cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, That they may see you.

How you have fallen due to arrogance?

Arrogance is the # 1 enemy of every born again believer. Every believer has been given a spiritual gift and due to this gift, many become arrogant. Many are physically set apart in attractiveness, many are set apart in their IQ; many are set apart to some talent, like singing, etc...

Believers please always remember that all we have is not of

ourselves but is of God. His Grace and we are to use it to His Glory.

Colossians 1:12

¹² **constantly giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us (made us worthy) to share in the inheritance.**

See that word **'to share'**... in the KJ it is translated **'partakers'**?

This is another reason why we do not get our eyes fixed on other believers;

**not judge them,
not malign them,
not compete with them,
not be jealous of them,
not devour them with our words and
not allow them to cause us
to lose our own spiritual momentum in HOLY SPIRIT.**

(steadfastness and longsuffering) We are partakers...we are to **'serve One Another in love'**. (Galatians 5:13)

Inheritance: Some of you know about this, some of you maybe not, Paul's concept of a spiritual inheritance in eternity for believers in JESUS CHRIST is primarily of Jewish origin. "But the doctrine was strongly influenced by Greek and Roman inheritance practice;"

Three of these influences were:

1st inheritance was regarded as immediate as well as ultimate,

2nd all legitimate heirs usually shared the inheritance equally and jointly rather than a division favoring a firstborn son, ...and...

3rd legally adopted children enjoyed full inheritance rights along with natural offspring.

So inheritance is based on Relationship.

1 JESUS CHRIST is the heir of all things through His own Sonship with GOD the FATHER Being the Son of God He is the heir of all things.

Essentially now in His Resurrected body.

Hebrews 1:2

2 **in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom (JESUS CHRIST) He (GOD the FATHER) appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.**

2 Heirship is based on Sonship and the death of another.

Romans 8:16

16 **The Spirit (Holy Spirit) Himself testifies with our spirit (human spirit received at point of salvation) that we are children of God,**

17 **and if (since) children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him* so that we**

may also be glorified with *Him*.

3 The inheritance of the Christian is based strictly on our relationship with JESUS CHRIST

Galatians 3:26

26

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

Every person, regardless of their life before or after salvation is an heir with JESUS CHRIST as sons of God.

4 This heirship is based on Eternal Life Titus 3:7

7

so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to *the hope of eternal life*.

5 Heirship means to share Christ destiny.

Ephesians 1:11

11

also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, (JESUS CHRIST is the only predestined, once we believe in JESUS CHRIST as Savior we share His destiny. No one is 'predestined')

6 Heirship is based on the standard of grace

Galatians 3:29

29

And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise. – GRACE

7 Heirship is also based on Election

Hebrews 9:15

15 **For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were *committed* under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.**

Everyone is called, and everyone who answers this call by believing in JESUS CHRIST is elected into Christ. GOD the FATHER has made the decision to elect anyone and everyone who believes in JESUS CHRIST. No one is elected outside of JESUS CHRIST.

8

Heirship means Eternal Security for everyone who believes. 1 Peter 1:4-5

4 **to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,**

5 **who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.**

9

Indwelling of the Holy Spirit is both sign and seal of our eternal inheritance.

Ephesians 1:13-14

13 **In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,**

14 **who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.**

10

Salvation is the qualification for this inheritance.

Colossians 1:12

12

giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.

11

Everyone who is redeemed –Jew or Gentile become God’s adopted sons with full inheritance rights. (This is important for the next verse in Colossians 1: verse 13 deals with Redemption)

Galatians 4:1-7

1

Now I say, as long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he is owner of everything,

2

but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by the father. (Date of adulthood and rightful position as heir)

3

So also we, while we were children, were held in bondage under the elemental things of the world. (OT)

4

But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,
(Incarnation of God-man)

5

so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, (Jews) that we might receive the adoption as sons.

6

Because you are sons, (Jew or Gentile, by Faith) God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son (Holy Spirit) into our hearts, (Indwelling of the Holy Spirit) crying, “Abba! Father!”

7 **Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.**

Now we are ready for Colossians 1:13 but before we look at verse 13 let's note the last phrase of verse 12 **of the saints in Light**

- 1 First; the Greek word 'saints' means 'holy' or set apart.
- 2 This term is used to refer to every person who has believed in JESUS CHRIST as Savior.
- 3 The word carries the ideal of purity. **But do not be mistaken by this designation. Every believer is made pure by God at salvation.** No one is designated 'pure' by their own doing. Just as we are all made worthy of our inheritance by God, so we are all made pure by God at Salvation.
- 4 In God's view everyone who believes in JESUS CHRIST is separated from the world and consecrated to God.
- 5 Now it is up to each believer as to whether or not he/she lives a life consecrated to God; that is a life worthy of God by walking—living in the Holy Spirit.

6 One of the great blessings of being a 'saint' is that the Holy Spirit will intercede on our behalf.

Romans 8:27

²⁷ **and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to *the will of God.***

7 Another great blessing in being a saint is that we have the blessing of Revelation given to us.

Colossians 1:26

²⁶ ***that is, the mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints,***

Jude 3

³ **Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the Faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.**

8 In Romans 1:7 believers are called 'saints'.
In Philippians 1:1 believers are called 'saints in Christ Jesus, because it is by being in Him that we are set apart from the world.

9 In Colossians 1:12 believers are said to be **saints in light**.
JESUS CHRIST is the **Light Of The World** and, therefore, believers in JESUS CHRIST are placed into union with JESUS CHRIST and are now said to be 'holy ones, in the sphere of light'.

Christians, if people in the world are to see the light of the world, where are they going to see this light? In you! You are in the sphere of light, you are the salt of the earth. Know who you are and why we are to live the way we are instructed in the Word of God to live a life worthy of God.

10 Because we are saints in Christ we are set apart to serve Him by serving One Another in the Body.

Ephesians 4:12

⁴ **for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;**

11 When Christ Comes Again...at His Second Advent, His Bride—the Church will be Saints clothed in Righteousness.

Revelation 19: 8

⁸ **It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.**

God Loves You

JESUS CHRIST loves you

JESUS CHRIST came and died on a cross for you

JESUS CHRIST shares with you His inheritance

JESUS CHRIST calls you saints in the light

Make it your ambition to walk in His Spirit

**Make it your ambition to grow in the knowledge
of God the Father and of JESUS CHRIST.**

**Have the courage (from the Holy Spirit)
to live as you ought to live in Christ.**

You have to make up your mind:

Is Christ sufficient for all your needs?

Or do you have to have other things or something else?

**This book is about the Sufficiency of JESUS CHRIST:
to God the Father;
and to you?**

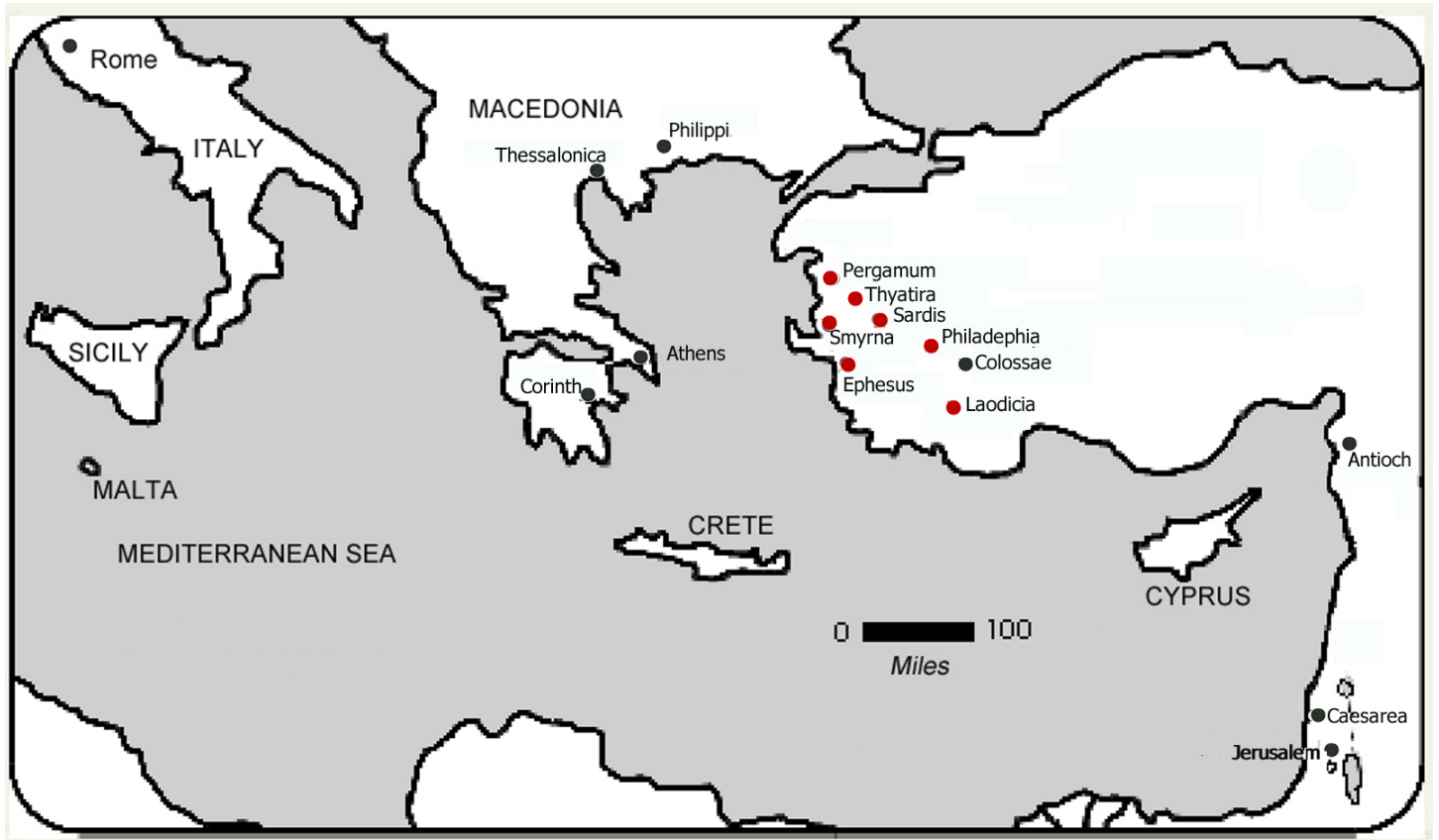
Is the Word of God sufficient for you?

Sufficient to bring you to JESUS CHRIST?

Sufficient to bring you to God the Father?

Is the World of God sufficient for **SAD** (*Stress, Anxiety, Depression*) in
your life or do you need outside help?

So we learn so much from the true understanding of the Gospel.



**Only one life,' twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.**