

# The Church in the Post Pandemic Times

Colossians 1:9-14

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- [9] And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,
- [10] so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;
- [11] being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;
- [12] giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.
- [13] He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,
- [14] in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (ESV)

□ In these Post-Pandemic Times.

How should the Church Make Adjustments  
to the Times?

**“Reset to the Manufacturer’s Settings”**

**Pastor Herman Watson**

**Go Back to God’s Design as found in the  
Word of God**

❖ Where/What Should be the Focus/Function of the Church in Times of so much Difficulty/Disarray?

❖ How can the Church Remain Faithful to God in such Faithless times?

❖ How can the Church Engage/Effective in Mindful Living in a Mindless Age?

# The Church has both Identity/Function in the World

## Our Identity Determines Function/Practice.

Matthew 5:13–16

Salt and Light

[13] **“You are the salt of the earth**, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

[14] **“You are the light of the world**. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

[15] Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

[16] In the same way, **let your light shine before others**, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

“The Church in These Difficult Times Must  
Be Found Faithful  
by Focusing on Christ and His Word”

We must have a Steady Pre-Occupation  
with the Lord Jesus Christ

**1. The Church Must Know What It Means to *Believe* in *God*.**

**2. The Church Must Know What It Means to *Belong* to *God*.**

**3. The Church Must Know What It Means to *Bow* to *God*.**

# Healthy Church

○ Fidelity in Doctrine

○ Holiness in Lifestyle

○ Love/Unity in Fellowship

## John 14:6

[6] Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

In chapter 1 – **Jesus Christ is the Way,**  
**Preeminence is Declared**

In chapter 2, **Jesus Christ is the Truth,**  
**Preeminence Defended.**

In chapters 3-4, **Jesus Christ is the Life,**  
**Preeminence Demonstrated**

**This is not a Prayer for Possessions but  
People.**

**This is not a Prayer for the Physical but  
the Spiritual.**

**This is not a Prayer of Deliverance but  
Transformation.**

**The Context of the Prayer**

**Col. 1:3-8**

**Thanksgiving**

**The Content of the Prayer**

**Col. 1:9-14**

**Petitions**

**Paul is Thankful to God for this Church.**

**Are You Thankful to God for Mt. Sinai?**

**The Context of this Prayer 1:3-8**

# Colossians 1:3-8

- The Love the Saints Exhibit v.4
- The Hope the Saints Experience v.5
- The Growth the Saints Encounter v.6
- The Gospel's the Saints Effected 5-6
- The Ministry the Saints Enjoyed v.7-8

*Are you thankful for the Church?*

**How does your Gratitude express itself?**

**Gratitude is an Appropriate Response to  
Grace!**

**Gratitude Expresses itself in  
Humility/Prayer.**

# The Content of this Prayer 1:9-14

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[11] being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;

[12] giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

[13] He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,

[14] in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

# 1. Primary Focus of Prayer

## **PRACTICAL OBEDIENCE**

Colossians 1:10

[10] so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; (ESV)

How does this take place?

Fill with the Knowledge of God's Will

Colossians 1:9

[9] And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be **filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, (ESV)**

## 2. Persistent Aspiration of Prayer

Moral Integrity Personal Conduct

Colossians 1:11

[11] being strengthened with all power, according to his **glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; (ESV)**

# 3. Assurance of the Prayer

## Praising God for their Salvation

[12] giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

[13] He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,

[14] in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

# God Will Honor This Prayer for the Church

- a. He has Delivered His Church 13a
- b. He has Translated His Church 13b
- c. He has Redeemed His Church 14a
- d. He has Forgiven His Church 14b