

Sermon Outline

Knowing Jesus

Col 1:9-12

I. Introduction

Paul writes to the church and reveals his prayers for her.
We must keep in mind the God-given nature of Scripture.

II. Full knowledge of God's will requires knowledge of Jesus himself

I Cor 1:30 (wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, redemption)

a. To know Jesus is of surpassing importance – Phil 3:8-11

b. Paul's exposition of Jesus in Col 1

A. He conveys forgiveness of sins v. 14

B. He is the image of God v. 15a

C. He is the prototype of creation v. 15b

D. He is the active agent in creation v. 16-17

E. He is head of the church v. 18

F. He is the fullness of all things v. 19 (*cf.* Jn 15:4,5)

c. To know God's will is to live affixed to the one who said:

A. Come to me when you are burdened Mt 11:28

B. Lay aside all else and follow me Mt 10:38 (*cf.* 8:22)

C. If you love me, keep my commandments – Jn 14:15 (*cf.* 15:10)

D. I am the true vine – Jn 15:1 (*cf.* v. 5)

E. I command you to love one another – Jn 15:12, 17 (*cf.* I Jn 3:23)

III. True knowledge of Jesus is reflected in our living – v. 10

a. We must love in deed and truth – I Jn 3:18 (*cf.* Jas 1:22) (*contra* I Jn 4:8)

b. We must rely on the strength of God to remain steadfast v. 11

c. The result will be

A. Patience

B. Forbearance

C. Joy

D. Thankfulness v. 12