

# CHRIST IN YOU - THE TRUE MEASURE

***"To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory"*** (Colossians 1:27). **"Christ in you, the hope of glory"** is the mystery God has decided to make known to all nations! When we read the whole verse carefully, fragment by fragment, we get the full impact of this wonderful truth: *"God was pleased to make known - what is the riches of the glory; of this mystery... Which is, **Christ in you.**"* The riches of the glory is Christ in you (and in me)! Our spiritual service, vision and vocation have no place apart from Christ in us. They cannot prosper except in the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

***"But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift... Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ"*** (Ephesians 4:7, 13). *"The measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."* Notice, what we need to focus on is not a mere truth, or more knowledge of the truth, but Christ Himself! He must take centre stage and His stature should occupy our lives. The desire of God the Father is that His Son, the Lord Jesus, shall fill all things, and all things shall be filled with Christ. Therefore, the value of anything in the eyes of God is measured according to the manifestation of Christ in it. From that standpoint alone, God determines the importance of everything. The measure of Christ in you determines your value in the kingdom of God! Now, does God still love you when the measure of Christ in you is small? Yes, but the kingdom cannot truly benefit until the "fulness of Christ" is manifest in you. Can you see that? In the eyes of God the value of everything is determined by the "measure" in which His Son is manifested and glorified; that is His end and His primary objective.

Christianity is not a doctrine, not truth as truth, but the experiential knowledge of a Person; it's coming into contact with the **full measure** of the Lord Jesus Christ in you. You cannot be educated into being a Christian. Christianity is a profound encounter with a Person; One who has chosen to manifest Himself in you. Not only does Christ desire to be "in you" but He wants the measure of His stature in you to be **full!**

God the Father singled out a Person, and gathered into that Person all His Divine attributes and perfections. Everything is inseparably bound up in His Son. He has put all the fulness of eternity and of the universe into that one Person, and bound up all the **fulness** in Him. Not a fragment of the divine can be had apart from Him, and all that is characterised by the 'new creation' is found in Him alone. The predestined purposes of God are being displayed by the church in the perfect presentation of the fulness of Christ - ***"The church, His body, the fulness of Him that fills all in all"*** (Ephesians 1:23).

Hence, every corner of our lives should speak audibly of Jesus Christ; we should not be able to go into a place, or touch a life, without finding an expression of the Lord Jesus. ***"Christ in you, the hope of glory,"*** this is heaven here on earth. You can walk in the presence of the Lord Jesus every second of every day. And this is what God intended - that Christ fill all things; that, looking into anything, it shall be found to be full of Christ. All is made by Him and for Him, ***"For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him"*** (Colossians 1:16). The new creation life should speak of His presence and show forth some characteristic of Him. What an awesome privilege that is; to touch a person and find that he too has been **filled with the measure of Christ!** God has singled out a Person and set Him forth to be seen by all!

The Christian life is not by effort, and not by struggle; and not merely by trying to put into practice certain maxims, or by trying to attain to a certain quality of life. But from beginning to end, and all together, it is a matter of knowing the Lord Jesus within. Of course this implies response to Him, and a continual yielding to His workings by the Holy Spirit within, and in so, fully co-operating with the Spirit in His purpose of conformity to Christ's image. An adequate appreciation of the Lord Jesus gets rid of all the strain of conformity to His image. Christ is most glorified where Christ is most in your heart! Spiritual growth is bound up with God's Beloved Son; and growth is the outcome of being pre-occupied with Him, giving the Lord Jesus His place in everything. He is all, and in all! Conclusively it is a matter of the **measure** of the **fullness** of Christ. Therefore, we must see that everything is bound up with the Lord Jesus Himself and nothing else.

The will of God is that we are saved to be conformed to the image of His Son; to come to the fulness of the "measure of Christ." And He will continue to set true value against this truth. Remember, the value of anything in the eyes of God is measured according to the manifestation of Christ in it. From that standpoint alone, God determines the importance of everything. The measure of Christ in you determines your value in the kingdom of God! Why is this? The answer can be found in the word "glory", which appears twice in our opening scripture... ***"To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory"*** (Colossians 1:27). The Greek word translated "glory" is the word 'thoxis', and it is a noun that is used to express what God essentially is and does; as exhibited in whatever way He chooses to reveal Himself. But particularly in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ, in whom His glory has ever shone and forever will do. God's glory is also made know through the mighty deeds of power Christ performed here on earth (John 1:14, 2:11, 11:4, 17:5; Hebrews 1:3).

The glory of God was also exhibited in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, **“Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life”** (Romans 6:4). In Romans 1:23, His everlasting power and divinity are spoken of as His “glory,” that is, the manifested perfection of His character. Hence, there is a direct correlation between God’s “glory” and God’s **everlasting power**. That being the case, Colossians 1:27 takes on a deeper meaning. To paraphrase: *“To them God decided to unveil the treasures of His divine characteristics contained in that which is to be revealed to the nations; which is Christ in you; producing a confident expectation that resurrection power will manifest.”* Our hope (or confident expectation) should be for God’s **power** to manifest through Christ in us! Therefore, the greater the measure of the “fullness of Christ” in us, the greater the manifestation of God’s divine characteristics - His glory and His power!

That is why God places so much value on the “fullness of Christ.” That is why He evaluates everything against the **measure** of the manifestation of Christ in it. If you want to experience signs and wonders in your life, you must first get a hold of this revelation and meditate on it until you are fully persuaded that **Christ in you, the hope of glory**, is ready and able to manifest a full measure of His divine attributes (His glory). Every great man and woman of God has at some time confessed to upholding this awesome truth. Smith Wigglesworth never declared anything else! All the miracles he performed he attributed to the Christ in him. He was totally Christ-inside minded! When you have the same **measure of the fullness of Christ in you**, you can do the same miracles!