

The Full Knowledge of God

Commentary for August 15, 2023 — “*Epignosis*” of God Will Be Our Possession

In the epistle [a letter] to the Colossians the apostle Paul tells us about our future ability to know the “full knowledge” of God. Read the text of this passage phrase by phrase. Paul is writing to the individuals of the *ekklesia*. He wants them [and us] to know important information:

“Therefore **we also**, from the day on which we hear [those in the *ekklesia* heard; and that includes you and me],

- **do not cease praying for YOU and requesting**
- **that YOU may be filled full with the REALIZATION of His will,**
 - [1] **in ALL wisdom and**
 - [2] **spiritual understanding,**
- **YOU to walk worthily of the Lord for all pleasing,**
- **bearing fruit in every good work, and**
- **growing in the REALIZATION of God;**
- **being endued [endowed] with all power, in accord with the might of His glory,**
- **[Why?] for all endurance and patience with joy; at the same time**
- **giving thanks to the Father, Who makes you competent**
- **[Why?] for a part of the allotment [inheritance] of the saints, in light.”**

• **Colossians 1:9–12**¹

Note the two uses of the highlighted word “realization.” This noun means (in all its forms) a *full knowledge* of a subject that will be totally known and understood by us. Paul uses the same word in Colossians 2:2, where it refers to the secret of God Himself:

“... that their hearts may be consoled, being united in love, and to all the riches of the assurance of understanding, unto a **REALIZATION** [*epignosis*, full knowledge] of the secret of the God and Father, of Christ, in Whom all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are concealed.”

• **Colossians 2:2–3**

This word *epignosis* also is used by Paul in his epistle to his young associate Timothy. In this passage Paul tells what the realization, the full knowledge about **God’s** two-fold **will** for mankind truly is:

“... for this is ideal and welcome in the sight of our Savior, God, Who **WILLS** that all mankind [1] **be saved** and [2] **come into a REALIZATION of the truth.**”

• **1 Timothy 2:3–4**

¹ All quotations are from the *Concordant Literal New Testament*.

The word “realization” or “full knowledge” (King James Version) in First Timothy means that we will know all the truth about **“our Savior, God.”**

Summary and Restatement of Paul’s Teaching of Epignosis

After we are glorified at Christ’s return, we will be taught many things fully and completely, as quickly as our glorified minds can learn. There will be learning, but we will acquire knowledge almost immediately with instant and total recall.

In our lives now, we are learning **through our experiences and our decisions**, EXACTLY what God wants us to learn **NOW**.

1. In Colossians 1:9 they (and we) will be **“filled full with the REALIZATION [epignosis] of His will.”** WE will have a full knowledge of God’s will.
2. In Colossians 1:10 they (and we) will be **“growing in the REALIZATION [epignosis] of God.”** WE will have full knowledge of God, as much as our glorified minds can grasp.
3. In Colossians 2:2 they (and we) can access and receive **“assurance of understanding, unto a REALIZATION [epignosis] of the SECRET of the God and Father, of Christ.** WE will have full knowledge of the secrets of God, Who is our Father and Christ’s Father.
4. In 1 Timothy 2:4, Paul says **“God WILLS that all mankind [1] be saved and [2] come into a REALIZATION [epignosis] of the truth.”** WE will learn the “full knowledge” of God’s will regarding His detailed plan of salvation for every human being.

Yes, “Salvation” and the **“REALIZATION [epignosis] of the truth”** go together. All mankind, EVERY PERSON, will not only learn and know that all will be saved, but eventually EVERY PERSON will have full knowledge of the truth of God.² We will learn the prophecy by Jesus, **“you WILL know the truth, and the truth WILL be making you free”** (John 8:32), was meant not just for His disciples then, but eventually for every person made in the image of God.

If this does not happen, then Paul is either a liar or misinformed. Perhaps God is not able to communicate to His children through His Son and apostles, or ... He is unable to fulfill His own will. But if so, what Paul wrote in Ephesians 1:9–11 is not true:

“... making known to us the secret of His will (in accord with His delight, which He purposed in Him) to have an administration of the complement of the eras, to head up all in the Christ – both that in the heavens and that on the earth – in Him in Whom our lot was cast also, being designated beforehand according to the purpose of the One Who is OPERATING ALL in accord with the counsel of HIS WILL.”

I trust and have faith in God, His Son Christ Jesus, and their Holy Scriptures — but I reject man’s theology of a trinity, an immortal soul,³ eternal torment, and a limited salvation.

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² Here are all instances of *epignosis* (“realization,” Concordant Version): Ephesians 1:17, 4:13; Philipians 1:9; Colossians 1:9–10, 2:2; 1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Timothy 2:25, 3:7; Titus 1:1; and Philemon v. 6.

³ See my article (based on Dr. Martin’s writings), [“The Pagan Immortal Soul and 'Double Doctrine'.”](#)