

ROOTED IN UNDERSTANDING

A growing understanding of God is a strong and stable root for life.

(Colossians 1:9-12) For this reason, since the day we heard this, we haven't stopped praying for you. We are asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God. May you be strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience, with joy giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the saints' inheritance in the light.

1. Increased Productivity

(10) So that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work...

- A. Before Christ we are thorny to God and produce worthless fruit.
- B. After Christ we become pleasing to God and produce valuable fruit.

2. Increased Perseverance

(11) May you be strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might...

(11) ...for all endurance and patience.

- A. Lack of understanding God leads to impatience.
- B. Growth in understanding God leads to perseverance.

3. Increased Praise

- A. Increased productivity and perseverance deserve praise.

(12) Giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the saints' inheritance in the light.

- B. Sharing in the inheritance of the saints deserves praise.