

Source of a Strong Church

Col 2:1-7

Intro: Paul's desire is that their hearts be encouraged = strengthened - both; the word is the idea of ~~en~~ enabling a person to meet a difficult task w/ confidence - this of course ~~en~~ encourages the heart.

v5 Paul amplifies his desire:

good discipline & stability:

Both words are military words - Paul's close contact of the Roman soldiers guarding him.

1- Order = good discipline = appointed order, rank, ordered arrangement - standing shoulder to shoulder - every man in his place, ready to obey word & command.

2- stability = ~~old~~ solid bulwark - describes an army set out in unbreakable square, solidly immovable against the shock of the charge & the enemy.

Their faith in X presents a firm foundation, a solid bulwark, an immovable wall that is a strong, encouraged church -

What brings about such a condition? How

does a church attain this? - look at next phrase - "Having been ..." - the participle = a prerequisite to strengthening

- The growth is no mere individual experience but in the context of love.

Together is the key word

The next 3 phrases = having been ... unto ... unto ...
a chain reaction - a graduating scale =
How are you strengthened - well, the basis, the
starting place is \odot being knit together, & this results
in assurance, which in turn results in true knowledge.
- So we might say that the 3rd phrase is the key
to a strong church, but it in turn has its sources.

The Sources of a Strong Church

I - a Fellowship Bound Together By Love

II - a Fellowship Filled w/ assurance

III - a Fellowship convinced of \odot 's mystery -

Col 2:6, 7

V.6 -

Παραλάβετε - aor act 2nd, plural of
παραλαμβάνω - Receive -

① a practical exhortation to use + enjoy all that they have in X.

- they had received him - not merely a truth concerning him.

- we receive him once + for all - aor.

- we receive him as he is

now as we received X so are we to use him -

& the very way in which we received him, is the way in which we are to use him.

- we are to use him by walking in him. He is the path. we walk in him. all our energies are put forth as consciously in him.

(Nicholson)

② The therefore looks back