## Prayer for the Colossians to Walk Worthily of Christ the Firstborn

The Pastor and the Professor Dr. John Niemelä October 25, 2018 Introduction Paul continually prays for the Colossians to fully understand God's will, so they may walk worthily resulting in pleasing Him by being fruitful and increasingly knowing Him (1:9-10) [The means for fruitfulness and knowing Him is] by being strengthened for patient longsuffering (1:11) The [prayed for] result is that they joyfully thank God who qualified us for the saints' inheritance (1:12) [The way He qualified us for inheritance is] by delivering us from the authority of darkness to [citizenship in] the kingdom of His Son in whom we have redemption and forgiveness (1:13-

14)

[We have been transferred to the Kingdom of Christ] who the image of the invisible God, the firstborn [inheritor] of all creation (1:15)
[In explanation of Jesus Christ as the firstborn inheritor of creation] is that He created everything for Himself (1:16)
He preceded all things and in Him everything holds together by Him(1:17)
[Besides being the firstborn of creation] He is also the head of the body, the church, the firstborn from the dead, so that He may be pre-eminent over all (1:18)
[In explanation of His pre-eminence] it pleased the Father for all the fullness [of deity] dwells in Him (1:19)
It also pleased the Father for Christ to reconcile all things to God through the cross (1:20)
Conclusion