

## Christians Have It All!

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A false philosophy was being circulated at Colossae in the first century and it was threatening the spiritual security of the church members there. Some false teachers were saying something like, "We have something you Christians need" (2:8).

The Apostle Paul's solution to this threat was to remind these Christians that they have it all in Christ! Paul used the word "all" 30 times, the word "full" 3 times, and the word "fullness" 2 times in the book of Colossians.

Today, we are threatened with the same philosophical elitism. Some people say, "You dumb Christians need to learn a thing or two about evolution, human rights, etc." "You boring Christians need to cut loose and live a little with alcohol, sexual immorality, etc." "You poor Christians need to get what's important in life with fame, fortune, etc."

No, Christians are not lacking. We have it all! We read an all-sufficient book: the Bible (1:6,9,10,11, 28; 2:2-3; 3:16). We serve an all-sufficient savior: Jesus Christ (1:15-20; 2:9,10,13). We function within an all-sufficient body: the church (1:18,24; 2:19; 3:15; 4:15). We live an all-sufficient life: in Christ (2:6,10; 3:11). We desire an all-sufficient hope: heaven (1:5,23,27; 2:18).

Friend, you too can have it all today by coming and obeying Jesus Christ in baptism (2:12). - *Chris Reeves*

## Sentence Sermons

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- When you "tie the knot" in marriage, don't tie a slip-knot.
- The best Bible translation is when the reader translates God's word into action.
- God's gospel can transform a nobody into a somebody.
- We would all be more successful if we followed the advice we gave to others.
- Blessed are the poor in spirit.

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## THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

## Divine Justice Delayed

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<sup>14</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, “Write this in a book as a memorial and recite it to Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven.” <sup>15</sup> Moses built an altar and named it *The LORD is My Banner*; <sup>16</sup> and he said, “The LORD has sworn; the LORD will have war against Amalek from generation to generation.”

- Exodus 17:14-16 -

There are many injustices in the world today. There are unpunished crimes involving murder, theft, etc. There are injustices by politicians, the powerful, the rich, etc. What is a Christian to do? Are we to be discouraged that there are so many injustices in the world? Are we, like the psalmist, to witness all the evil in the world and come close to losing our faith (Psalm 73)?

In Exodus 17, the Israelites had just left Egypt when they were attacked by the Amalekites. The Israelites ultimately defeated them, but God said that he would utterly destroy the Amalekites for what they did to his people. We learn from Exodus 17:14-16 that divine justice will come, but sometimes it is delayed. In this scripture, God demanded justice for the wrongs done to Israel by the Amalekites, but God’s jus-

tice upon the Amalekites would be delayed for many years (see also Numbers 24:20; Deuteronomy 25:17-19).

When you read the account of God’s justice pronounced in Exodus 17:14-16 and the fulfillment of in 1 Samuel 15, you find that many years (approximately 400 years!) passed before the justice of God was carried out upon the Amalekites (1 Samuel 15:1-3,32-33).

What we learn from this is that the unjust person will eventually face a just God. In time, you pay for the wrong you have committed (Psalm 21:8-11). You may pay now, but you will certainly pay in the judgment day at the end of time. This day will be a day of God’s justice (2 Thessalonians 1:6).

We must always remember that God is a God of justice. He does not turn a “blind eye” to all the wrongs that are done in the world (Genesis 4:10; 18:25; Deuteronomy 32:4; Psalm 7:11; 33:4-5; 89:14).

How does God show he is a God of justice? God carries out civil justice with judges (Exodus 18:21; Romans 13). God commands and requires justice of his own people (Deuteronomy 16:18-20; Micah 6:8; Matthew 23:23). God delights in and highly values justice (Proverbs 1:3; 11:1; 21:3,15).

God’s justice is plenteous (Job 37:23), impartial (Jeremiah 32:19), unfailing (Zephaniah 3:5), undeviating (Job 8:3; 34:12), and without respect of persons (Romans 2:11). We serve a just God who will judge unjust man, both in the church (Hebrews 10:30-31) and in the world (Rom. 12:19; 13:4).

In Exodus 17:14-16, Moses was told to write down God’s justice and rehearse it. Israel was to know and remember that God demands justice and he will repay and punish the wrongdoer. We have written down in the New Testament that God will repay – it will happen (Acts 17:31; Romans 2:5; Galatians 6:9; Hebrews 9:27)!

At the end of this account, Moses built an altar and named it *Jehovah-nissi* (meaning Jehovah is my banner) because Jehovah gave victory to Israel and vengeance to Amalek. We learn from this, that in time, the unjust will always be judged by God (Revelation 6:10; 19:1-2).

May we never mock the passing of God’s time, but repent and be ready for the judgment day (2 Pet. 3:4-9). May we always magnify the just and righteous judgment of God (Psalm 98:9; 99:4). - *Chris Reeves*