## Word of Christ In Us

### Colossians 3:16

'The most basic of all human needs is the need to understand and be understood'

We face two obstacles in teaching -

- 1. Getting hearer to understand
- 2. Getting hearer to hear

Colossians 3:16 addresses our need

#### I. The Word

### Perfect place for Paul to say . . .

- Listen for voice of God, as Gn.2-3.
- Listen for voices of prophets.
- Seek visions for guidance. Nu.12:6.
- Interpret dreams. Nu.12:6; Mt.1-2.
- Watch for signs. Jer.13.
- Put faith in scholars.

## Paul writes words of gospel

Col.4:16 – the standard for . . .

#### All Christians

#### All churches

- Power of written word: Mt.4:4
  - 1. 1 Co.14:37, wrote Lord's commands
  - 2. Ep.3:4, read: full understanding
  - 3. 1 Th.5:27, read: to all Christians
  - 4. 2 Th.2:2, equal to spoken word
  - 5. 2 Th.2:15, hold fast
  - 6. Hb.1:1-2, God through Son (4:4)

#### Scripture provides . . .

- Certainty, Lk.1:3-4
- True discipleship, truth, Jn.8:31-32; 17:17
- All necessary things Jesus did. Jn.20:30-31
- Edification, Ac.20:32
- Encouragement, Ro.15:4

- What else do we need?
- Commands of God, 1 Co.14:37
- Revelation of mysteries, Ep.3:3-5
- Every good work, 2 Tim.3:16-17
- Memory of apostles' words, 2 Pt.1:15
- Fellowship: apostles, Father, Son, 1 Jn.1:3
- Full joy, 1 Jn.1:4
- Protection against sin, 1 Jn.2:1-2

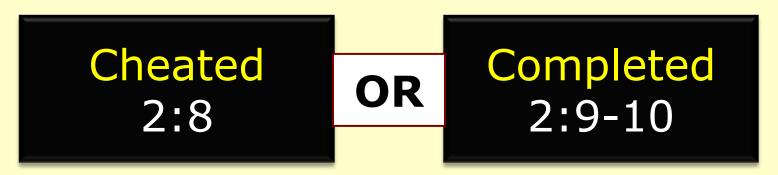
I. The Word

II. Of Christ

### "Of Christ" implies . . .

1. He is <u>Giver</u> of words **and** their <u>Theme</u>. Jn.6:68

2. Exclusive – His words. Col.2.



3. Beware counterfeits: satan also has messengers, 2 Co.11:13-15.

I. The Word

II. Of Christ

III. Let Dwell

# `Let dwell' – imperative Implications –

- 1. We must learn what this means.
- 2. We must do it.

Jer.8:1-2, idols
Loved
Served
Walked
Sought
Worshiped

Ezk.14:3-4, set up idols 'in their hearts' (indwelling) 5, 7, estranged Ro.7:17, 20, sin

# 'Let dwell' – imperative Implications –

- 1. We must learn what this means.
- 2. We must do it.

Jer.31:33
Law in minds
Write it
on their hearts
Their God;
My people

Ezk.36:26-28
New heart/spirit
My Spirit w/in
Heart of flesh
My people;
Your God

# `Let dwell' – imperative Implications –

- 1. We must learn what this means.
- 2. We must do it.

Romans 7:17-25
Sin dwells in me
Nothing good
dwells in me
Another law in
my members, 23
Flesh: law of sin

Romans 8:9
Not in flesh but in the Spirit
Sp. dwells in, 11
Walk according to Spirit, 4-5
Law of Spirit, 2

Ephesians 5:18-20	Colossians 3:16-17
Holy Spirit	Holy Word
Be filled with (pres. imper.)	Let dwell in (pres. imper.)
Spirit	Word
Speak to one another	Teach / Admonish
Psalms, Hymns, Spiritual songs	Psalms, Hymns, Spiritual songs
Singing, making melody in heart	Singing, thankfulness in heart
To the Lord	To God
Always giving thanks	Giving thanks

## 'Let dwell' – present Word of Christ is not . . .

- a stranger
- an occasional guest

Word of Christ dwells in us – continuous, permanent relationship

Our heart holds the word of Christ

II. Of Christ
III. Let Dwell
IV. Richly

## 'Richly'

•Pertaining to that which exists in a large amount, with the implication of its being valuable – 'in large amount, in abundance, rich, richly'

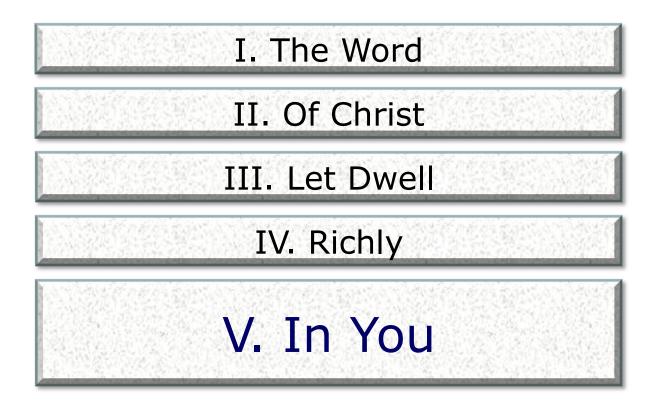
### 'Richly' – not satisfied with . . .

- Ignorance
- Knowledge in others
- Little knowledge in self
- Mere knowledge
- Mere ability to answer errors
- Dual occupancy: share word with sin
- Growth for a while

## Word dwells in us 'Richly'

- Fully under its influence
  - Not a temporary guest
    - Not occupying one room
  - 1. The word takes control (dwells in) the whole house.
  - 2. The word dwells there forever

This permanent resident feeds us. To world, you are a scholar.



### How to put out the welcome mat?

- 1. Study (daily) 16.
- 2. Savor (meditate, 4:6; Ps.1).
- з. Submit (obey, 3:17).
- 4. Share (teach, 4:3; 1:25).
- **5.** Seek (as though life depends upon it it does, 3:4).