

THE "I" IN HIM IS MY COMPLETENESS

It's in Jesus that I have everything I need for life, liberty and success.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ Scholars believe that Paul's letter to the Colossians believers was to address false teachings such as Jewish legalism, Greek philosophy, and mysticism that had apparently infiltrated their church. In addition to refuting these doctrines, Paul used the letter to reaffirm Christ's supremacy and sufficiency in every area of life.
- ❖ The teachings Paul contested, like mysticism (or spirituality), focused on the exultation of the individual and emphasized the individual's journey of self-discovery and inner transformation to achieve enlightenment. Rather than focusing on God, people pursued fulfillment through things like fame, fortune, power, influence, education, and relationships.
- ❖ The reality is that we as Christians must also contend with this philosophy in this day and age, where the world puts forth the idea that you are the authority of your own ultimate source and where themes like speaking "your truth" prevail.
- ❖ To counter the false teachings infiltrating the church, Paul redirected the saints' attention from self-centeredness to focus Jesus—the One in whom we are made complete.
- ❖ The Cambridge dictionary defines 'completeness' as "the quality of being whole or perfect and having nothing missing."
- ❖ In Colossians 2:10, the Greek word *plēroō* is used for 'complete', which means "to fulfill, make full; to be filled."
- ❖ We are complete in Jesus. In Jesus we are whole, perfect—we lack nothing in Him!
- ❖ To understand what it means to experience true completeness, we must recognize the supremacy of Jesus. Paul does this in Colossians 1 by emphasizing the unique nature of Jesus Christ as the perfect representation of God when he tells those of the Colossian church that "the Son is the image of the invisible God" (v.v. 15-16).
- ❖ The term, 'image' implies a likeness or representation. Jesus, who embodies the fullness of God, making the invisible God known to humanity by serving as the visible manifestation of God's character and essence (see Hebrews 1:3).
- ❖ The completeness and totality of the deity (*Theos* = God) is in Jesus. Everything necessary for salvation and spiritual life is found in Christ alone.
- ❖ Jesus was not merely a man; He was also the expression of the full divine nature and essence of God in human form. It's no wonder Paul proclaims, "Great is the mystery of godliness!" in 1 Timothy 3 (v.v. 15-16).

KEY SCRIPTURE: Colossians 2:9-10
(all scripture in NIV unless otherwise noted)

- ❖ The Greek word Paul uses for 'mystery' in 1 Timothy 3 is *mustērion*, which has the meaning "mystery, secret; something that is now unveiled, a secret, which would remain such, except for revelation."
- ❖ The *mustērion* (mystery) that is God was revealed in the flesh. This is why Paul emphasises the supremacy of Jesus over all other doctrines and philosophies—He is the revelation of God to us!
- ❖ Paul also uses the term *mustērion* in Colossians 1, saying, "To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is *Christ in you, the hope of glory*" (v.v. 25-27).
- ❖ The *mustērion* (mystery) is that Christ is in you. God, the hope of Glory, is in you!
- ❖ If you have accepted Jesus as your personal Lord and Saviour and have been filled with His Spirit, God lives in you "...and in Him," Colossians 2:10 (NASB) declares, you have been made complete."
- ❖ Our spiritual fullness and sufficiency is in Christ. As believers, we have everything we need in Jesus to thrive in our relationship with God.
- ❖ Jesus said that if we remain in Him and His words remain in us, we will be fruitful or complete (see John 15: 5, 7).
- ❖ In Jesus, we are whole. We are perfect. We are missing nothing. **We are complete in Him!**

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1 Timothy 3:16 speaks of the *mustērion* (mystery) of godliness: "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."

Paul then further lays out the *mustērion* (mystery) that is God in Colossians 1:25-27, saying, "...Which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

1. Discuss the *mustērion* of godliness as laid out in 1 Tim. 3:16 and how it has impacted the world in a general sense.
2. Referring to Col. 1:25-27, how have you been personally impacted by the *mustērion* of godliness?
3. How has the "I" in Him become your completeness (has made you whole) in your everyday life?

PRAYER TIME

Thank You, Lord, that it is in You that I have been made complete. Amen!

Start-up: Has anything mysterious ever happened in your life? What was the mystery and how did you go about "solving" it?

WEEK OF SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

✓ (Reminds me/Confirms) 💡 (New idea) 🤔 (Think about)
! (Do this) ❤️ (Speaks to my heart) ➡️ (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE
WORD

PRAYER FOCUS: Canadian political leaders; municipal, provincial, federal

24-hour Prayer: Monday & Wednesday;

Daily Devotions: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday (except public holidays) @ 6:30 a.m. and **Tuesday & Thursday** @ 9:00 p.m.;

Corporate Prayer: Friday @ 7:00 p.m. (and overnight @ 9:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.) and **Sunday** @ 6:00 p.m.

Zoom ID: 838 3191 5909 **Phone Access:** 647-374-4685

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

To donate online, please go to www.faithsanctuary.com/give
For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com



FAITH SANCTUARY LIFE GROUPS

Are you looking to connect with others? Do you want to be a part of a supportive community that nurtures spiritual growth through God's Word? Then join one of our vibrant Life Groups here at Faith Sanctuary and experience the power of a Christ-like community in person or online!
Contact: Sis. Tope Barrett (tb@faithsanctuary.com)

GROUP EVANGELISM

With the weather is getting nicer, we are reminding everyone that Group Evangelism is taking place every Saturday at 11:00 a.m. *For more information, please see Sis. Maude Chalifour or contact her at mc@faithsanctuary.com.*

BIBLICAL FINANCE COURSE

Date: Every Tuesday until May 13th, 2025 @ 7:30 p.m.

Time: 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Place: Virtually on Zoom (use the Berean Bible Study link)

Contacts: Sis. Diane Davy and Sis. Rosemarie Roach

ONTARIO DISTRICT LADIES CONFERENCE

Dates: Thursday, June 5th – Saturday, June, 7th, 2025

Early registration is until May 1st

Registration (with accommodation) is \$199.00 + tax

Registration (without accommodation) is \$169 + tax

Hotel Rooms are available as well.

Contact: Pastor Lucy Peel or Sis. Fredericka Rainford

FAITH SANCTUARY WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.

(Listen via phone: 1-844-268-4848)

Monday Berean Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m.

(Zoom, Facebook, YouTube)

Wednesday Bible Study @ 7:30 p.m.

(In person and via Zoom)

Friday Evening Service @ 8:00 p.m.

(In person and via Zoom)

Life Group Meetings – individually scheduled
(see ushers for information)

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

APRIL 27, 2025



Feed Canada to Feed the World



Pastor:
Rev. Adrian W. Peel

"For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over every ruler and authority...."
Colossians 2:9-10 (NASB)

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