

*a sermon from COLOSSIANS 2:6-7:*

## A CHRISTIAN WALK OF FAITH FOR DAILY LIVING

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## I. A PRAYER

Let us pray for the state of the whole Church militant as our Lord revealed to Saint Faustina: “Eternal Father, ...[we] offer You The Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord JESUS CHRIST, for our sins and those of the whole world; for the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us!”<sup>1</sup> In The Name of GOD The Father, and The Son and The Holy Ghost. AMEN.

## II. A PROPOSITION

Let the Christian man walk faithfully each day in and with our Lord JESUS CHRIST, fully rooted and built up in Him and standing firm in our holy Faith within The Church, as we have been taught with thankful hearts unto GOD!

## III. A SCRIPTURE – COLOSSIANS 2:6-7 – WALK DAILY IN CHRIST

<sup>6</sup> As ye have therefore received CHRIST JESUS The Lord, so walk ye in Him:

<sup>7</sup> Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in The Faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.<sup>2</sup>

## IV. INTRODUCTION

How should the Christian live his daily life? Saint Paul calls us in COLOSSIANS 2:6-7 to walk in and with our Lord JESUS CHRIST every day that The Almighty grants us the breath of life: “As ye have therefore received CHRIST JESUS The Lord, so walk ye in Him: Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in The Faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.”<sup>3</sup> To that end, let us search The Word of GOD for how indeed we are to walk every day in our Saviour, that we may discern what we may call “A Christian Walk of Faith for Daily Living.”

## V. ETERNAL SALVATION IS FOUND ONLY IN JESUS CHRIST THE SAVIOUR

Saint Peter declares to his countrymen in ACTS 4:10-12 that the longed-for salvation of GOD has come: “Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by The Name of JESUS CHRIST of Nazareth, Whom ye crucified, Whom GOD

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<sup>1</sup> 1, Diary of Saint Faustina, # 475, p 207. A prayer for Divine Mercy.

<sup>2</sup> 2, KJV, COLOSSIANS 2:6-7.

<sup>3</sup> 2, KJV, COLOSSIANS 2:6-7.

raised from the dead... is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other Name under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved!”

Article XVIII of the Anglican “39 Articles of Religion,” which is entitled “Of obtaining eternal Salvation only by The Name of CHRIST,” declares that “Holy Scripture doth set out unto us only The Name of JESUS CHRIST, whereby men must be saved.”<sup>4</sup>

Article XI, titled “Of the Justification of Man,” confesses that “we are accounted righteous before GOD, only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour JESUS CHRIST by Faith, and not for our own works or deservings.”<sup>5</sup> And thus Scripture reveals that, within The Church of GOD, which is The Body of CHRIST on earth, our Faith rests secure! And there only is our salvation for earthly blessing, forgiveness of sins and eternal life with The Creator Above forever!

For when The Lord asked Saint Peter, “But Whom say ye that I am?” we find the Apostle confessing “Thou art The CHRIST, The Son of The living GOD!”<sup>6</sup> And so our Saviour declared in MATTHEW 16:18, “And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it!”<sup>7</sup> Does a man desire to live in covenant with and under the loving arm of The Almighty both now and forever? Then to The faithful Church he must resort, and nowhere else!

## VI. FIND YOUR PLACE AS A FAITHFUL MEMBER IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

Saint Paul declares in ROMANS 12:4-5, “For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one Body in CHRIST, and every one members one of another.”<sup>8</sup> The Lord does not call us out of darkness, sin and death to Himself, only to have us stand alone against the wiles of the devil, the evil of the world and the struggles of life! Most certainly not!

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<sup>4</sup> 3, 39 Articles of Religion, XVIII. Of obtaining eternal Salvation only by The Name of CHRIST.

<sup>5</sup> 3, 39 Articles of Religion, XI. Of the Justification of Man.

<sup>6</sup> 2, KJV, MATTHEW 16:15-16.

<sup>7</sup> 2, KJV, MATTHEW 16:18.

<sup>8</sup> 2, KJV, ROMANS 12:4-5.

GOD has a place for every saved soul in The visible Church on earth, which - as The Church of England declares in its Article XIX, “Of The Church” – is the local “congregation of faithful men, in which The pure Word of GOD is preached, and The Sacraments be duly ministered according to CHRIST’s ordinance.”<sup>9</sup> Thus as we all who are saved in CHRIST are one with Him, so we are also to be brethren to each other within The Church. He has a place for each of us, and He commands us to take that place as a faithful member in our local Church.

And let us take our place now in The Church militant on earth, that we may, when we leave this world, take our place in The Church victorious in Heaven! Shall a man dwell in GOD’s Presence now and forever? Then he must take his place in The Body of CHRIST, which our blessed Saviour has ordained for him! Stanza 5 of the hymn “The Church’s One Foundation” proclaims this joyous mystery:

“Yet she on earth hath union with GOD the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us Grace that we  
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee!”<sup>10</sup>

## VII. RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM COMMANDED BY CHRIST

When the men of Israel realized that they had crucified The Messiah on The cruel Cross by Saint Peter’s discourse to them, they were as ACTS 2:37 records, “...pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the Apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?”<sup>11</sup> Saint Peter replied, “...Repent, and be baptized every one of you in The Name of JESUS CHRIST for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of The Holy Ghost. Then they that gladly received his Word were baptized...”<sup>12</sup>

The Anglican Church’s Article XXVII, “Of Baptism,” declares that The Sacrament of Baptism is both an outward mark of Christian faith and also “a sign of Regeneration or New-Birth, whereby... they that receive Baptism rightly are grafted into The Church.” For when we follow the Biblical command to repent and be baptized in The

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<sup>9</sup> 3, 39 Articles of Religion, XIX. Of The Church.

<sup>10</sup> 4, hymnsite.com, # 545, “The Church's One Foundation,” stanza 5. Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900; Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1810-1876.

<sup>11</sup> 2, KJV, ACTS 2:37.

<sup>12</sup> 2, KJV, ACTS 2:38&41.

Name of our Lord, we receive “the promises of the forgiveness of sin, and of our adoption to be the sons of GOD by The Holy Ghost, are visibly signed and sealed, Faith is confirmed, and Grace increased by virtue of prayer unto GOD.”<sup>13</sup>

#### VIII. RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION COMMANDED BY CHRIST

From Saint Mark we have These Words of our Lord Himself in MARK 14:22-24, Who instituted and commanded the celebration of The holy Eucharist: “And as they did eat, JESUS took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is My Body. And he took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them: and they all drank of it. And He said unto them, This is My Blood of The New Testament, which is shed for many.”<sup>14</sup>

The Church of England, in her Article XXVIII, “Of the Lord’ Supper,” confesses that Christians are commanded by our Lord to regularly receive The Sacrament of Communion administered by The faithful Church, “not only a sign of the love that Christians ought to have among themselves one to another, but rather it is a Sacrament of our Redemption by CHRIST’s death: insomuch that to such as rightly, worthily, and with faith, receive the same, The Bread which we break is a partaking of The Body of CHRIST; and likewise The Cup of Blessing is a partaking of The Blood of CHRIST.”<sup>15</sup>

#### IX. ACCEPT CORRECTION OF THE LORD UNDER CARE OF THE CHURCH

The writer of HEBREWS declares in HEBREWS 12:5-7, “And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, my son, despise not thou the chastening of The Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him: For whom The Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. If ye endure chastening, GOD dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?”<sup>16</sup>

So when GOD corrects us and we are convicted to repent of our sins at The Cross of CHRIST, "let us not abuse the goodness of GOD, Who calleth us mercifully to

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<sup>13</sup> 3, 39 Articles of Religion, XXVII. Of Baptism.

<sup>14</sup> 2, KJV, MARK 14:22-24.

<sup>15</sup> 3, 39 Articles of Religion, XXVIII. Of The Lord's Supper.

<sup>16</sup> 2, KJV, HEBREWS 12:5-7.

amendment, and of His endless pity promiseth us forgiveness of that which is past, if with a perfect and true heart we return unto Him.”<sup>17</sup> For when we as Christians turn from our sins and accept our Heavenly Father’s correction, we are strengthened in our faith.

#### X. BE ALWAYS A GOOD SOLDIER OF THE CROSS

Saint Paul writes These Words for us in EPHESIANS 6:11-13, “Put on the whole armour of GOD, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of GOD, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand!”<sup>18</sup>

We as Christians are always engaged in a spiritual warfare and are commanded to put on the whole armour of GOD, that we may serve Him as faithful spiritual warriors of The Church. Stanza 3 of the hymn, “The Church’s One Foundation,” sings out our cry for GOD’s Grace to always be found as good and faithful soldiers of The Cross:

“Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, ‘How long?’  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song!”<sup>19</sup>

#### XI. ALWAYS HOLD FAST TO ORTHODOXY IN FAITH

What does Saint Jude say of holding fast to orthodoxy in our Christian Faith? He proclaims in JUDE 1:3, “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for The Faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> 5, Anglican Book of Common Prayer, "A Communion or Denouncing of GOD's Anger and Judgements Against Sinners," p 46.

<sup>18</sup> 2, KJV, EPHESIANS 6:11-13,.

<sup>19</sup> 4, hymnsite.com, # 545, “The Church's One Foundation," stanza 3. Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900; Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1810-1876.

<sup>20</sup> 2, KJV, JUDE 1:3.

As Christians, we are commanded to hold fast to the Faith in its true form as delivered to The Church by CHRIST and His Apostles. On one cruel day in England in 1555 AD, the Anglican Church reformers Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer were martyred in the flames for their Christian convictions. So we also must fight daily against the evils that oppose The Church in our own time and place. And in doing so, we often face the hand of persecution and affliction, sometimes even unto death.

We may take an example from the turbulent age of the English Reformation-Counter Reformation-Reformation in which Ridley and Latimer lived and died. We may or may not agree completely with all of their theology and desired reforms for The Church in their age, but we may certainly discern the martyr's crowns of faithful Christian men upon their heads! Together in the midst of the flames of their martyrdom, Latimer admonished his fellow martyr, "Be of good comfort, Master Ridley, and play the man; we shall this day light such a candle. By GOD's grace, in England, as I trust shall never be put out!"<sup>21</sup>

## XII. ALWAYS BE READY TO DEFEND THE HOLY WORD OF GOD

To the prophet Isaiah The LORD revealed These Words in ISAIAH 40:8, "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but The Word of our GOD shall stand for ever!"<sup>22</sup> The Church on earth is ordained to be the keeper of The Holy Scriptures, that she might preach The Gospel of CHRIST to all men. Persecution from outside The Church seeks to suppress The very Word of GOD from being preached. Heresy from within The Church seeks to pervert The Scriptures to accommodate wicked sins.

But we as members of The visible Church can take strength in knowing that GOD is sovereign over all, and that His Word stands forever. For The Lord indeed calls us to be ever ready to give good reason for our sure faith in The Saviour, and to stand firm on what He has declared in The Scriptures to us through The faithful Church. And when we are so faithful, even amidst trouble and persecution, He will give us the Grace necessary to do so! So stanza 4 of the hymn, "The Church's One Foundation" calls out to Him:

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<sup>21</sup> 6, A History of The Church of England, Chapter XI. The Reformation and After, v. Persecution and Disaster, p 195, paragraph 2. On the martyrdom of the English Church reformers Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer.

<sup>22</sup> 2, KJV, ISAIAH 40:8.

“Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,  
and The great Church victorious shall be The Church at rest!”<sup>23</sup>

### XIII. WALK HUMBLY & THANKFULLY BEFORE GOD FOR SALVATION

Saint Paul writes in EPHESIANS 2:8-10, “For by Grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of GOD: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in CHRIST JESUS unto good works, which GOD hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”<sup>24</sup>

After The Fall, man lost the ability to choose to do what is without sin before GOD. There is no good work that we can do to earn forgiveness of our sins from GOD. It is by faith we are saved, by GOD’s Grace, which then brings forth the evidence thereof in a changed life in CHRIST full of good works of faith, hope and love.

The Anglican Article X, “Of Free Will,” states that “we have no power to do good works which are pleasing and acceptable to GOD, unless the Grace of GOD through CHRIST goes before us so that we may have a good will, and continues to work with us after we are given that good will.”<sup>25</sup> For then we may accomplish the good works which The Almighty has set before us to do in Him from before the foundations of the world!

### XIV. STAND FAITHFULLY IN THE CHURCH AWAITING CHRIST’S RETURN

Saint Matthew declares The Lord’s command of The Great Commission to His Church in MATTHEW 28:19-20, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in The Name of The Father, and of The Son, and of The Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”<sup>26</sup>

Even though some part of The Church has been found to err in all ages, still she shall stand undefeated on earth, awaiting the return of The Lord. And until then, we as

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<sup>23</sup> 4, hymnsite.com, # 545, “The Church's One Foundation," stanza 4. Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900; Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1810-1876.

<sup>24</sup> 2, KJV, EPHESIANS 2:8-10.

<sup>25</sup> 3, 39 Articles of Religion, X. Of Free Will.

<sup>26</sup> 2, KJV, MATTHEW 28:19-20.

The Church on earth are commanded to bring GOD's Word to all who will hear. And even though satan and his minions rage against The Church, as do evil men from without and apostates from within, still JESUS The Messiah Himself is there with us. So stanza 1 of the hymn "The Church's One Foundation" sings:

"The Church's one foundation is JESUS CHRIST her Lord;  
she is His new creation by water and The Word.  
From Heaven He came and sought her to be His holy Bride;  
with His Own Blood he bought her, and for her life He died!" <sup>27</sup>

#### XV. IN CONCLUSION

Saint Paul calls all Christians to walk in our Saviour daily in all that we do as in COLOSSIANS 2:6-7: "As ye have therefore received CHRIST JESUS The Lord, so walk ye in Him: Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in The Faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." <sup>28</sup>

In searching The Word of GOD, we have discerned what may be called "A Christian Walk of Faith for Daily Living:" to confess that our eternal salvation is found only in JESUS CHRIST our Saviour; to find our place as a faithful member of The local Church; to receive The Sacraments of Baptism and Communion as commanded by CHRIST. Let us seek to accept correction of The Lord under the care of The Church; to be always good soldiers of The Cross; to always hold fast to orthodoxy in our Faith; to always be ready to defend The Holy Word of GOD; to walk humbly and thankfully before GOD for our salvation; to stand faithfully in The Church as we await CHRIST's return!

If we walk in a true faith as Christians by seeking GOD's Grace to live out such a "Christian walk of Faith for Daily Living," we will surely be closer with and in our Lord JESUS CHRIST with every breath that we take. Let us then walk faithfully each day in and with our Lord JESUS CHRIST, fully rooted and built up in Him and standing firm in our holy Faith within The Church, as we have been taught with thankful hearts unto GOD! May it ever be so with us! For as we take our place in The Church militant on

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<sup>27</sup> 4, hymnsite.com, # 545, "The Church's One Foundation," stanza 1. Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900; Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1810-1876.

<sup>28</sup> 2, KJV, COLOSSIANS 2:6-7.

earth, so shall we then take our place in The Church triumphant in Heaven. As the 2<sup>nd</sup> stanza of the hymn “The Church’s One Foundation” proclaims:

“Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;  
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy Name she blesses, partakes one holy Food,  
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued!”<sup>29</sup>

May it ever be so, O LORD, with us! In The Name of GOD The Father, and The Son and The Holy Ghost. AMEN.

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<sup>29</sup> 4, hymnsite.com, # 545, “The Church's One Foundation,” stanza 2. Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900; Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1810-1876.

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