



"There must be more to life than this" ?

"Your own completeness is only realised in Jesus"

110 1 Glory be to God the Father,
glory be to God the Son,
glory be to God the Spirit:
great Jehovah, Three in One!
Glory, glory while eternal ages run!

2 Glory be to him who loved us,
washed us from each spot and stain;
glory be to him who bought us,
made us kings with him to reign!
Glory, glory to the Lamb that once was slain!

3 Glory to the King of angels,
glory to the Church's King,
glory to the King of nations;
heav'n and earth your praises bring!
Glory, glory, to the King of glory sing!

4 Glory, blessing, praise eternal!
thus the choir of angels sings;
Honor, riches, pow'r, dominion!
thus its praise creation brings.
Glory, glory to the King of kings!

We live in a society which focusses on celebrities -
We come to celebrate You, O God
longing for You O Father to be given the glory as Creator of the universe
for You, Jesus, to be given the glory as the One Who came to rescue us
for You, Holy Spirit, to be given the glory for the way You can work in our lives,
We don't deserve all this - we confess.....forgive us we pray.
Help us today that in our worship today we may be envisioned to focus on You
so that in our lives we may be re-orientated to Your will
and resourced to be Your people
through Jesus Christ to Whom with You O Father and the Holy Spirit be all praise and glory now and for
ever AMEN



We have a colossal Gospel ... about a colossal God
1.Thanksgiving for life-changing word of truth
2. Eternal dimension of God's people
3.Power to proclaim a great God

Reading Colossians 2.1-15

I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally. 2 My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. 4 I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments. 5 For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christ is.

Spiritual Fullness in Christ

6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, 7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

8 See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, 10 and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. 11 In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, 12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead. 13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, 14 having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. 15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross

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1 O thou my soul, bless God the Lord;
and all that in me is
be stirrèd up his holy name
to magnify and bless.

2 Bless, O my soul, the Lord thy God,
and not forgetful be
of all his gracious benefits
he hath bestowed on thee.

3 All thine iniquities who doth
most graciously forgive;
who thy diseases all and pains
doth heal, and thee relieve.

4 Who doth redeem thy life, that thou
to death mayest not go down;
who thee with loving-kindness doth
and tender mercies crown.

5 Who with abundance of good things
doth satisfy thy mouth;
so that even as the eagle's age,
renewèd is thy youth.

**Narrow ?
Missing Out ?
Superficial ?**

Christians are sometimes seen as

A. Fullness of God in Jesus v9

no additional rites needed, God having taken the initiative to make Himself known in Jesus

B. Fulness of Jesus in us v10

no additional rites needed, the Christian faith is summed up in a relationship offered in Jesus.

In Jesus there is nothing narrow, we don't miss out, and it is not superficial religiosity, but rather in Jesus are we complete ...

... **Mentally**

not in sense of knowing all the answers, but knowing Him Who is the answer

... **Morally**

not in sense of being perfect,
but recognising final authority in God and the energising of Holy Spirit

...**Spiritually**

not by being big headed, but in humble yet thrilling contact

How did this come about in Colosse?

In response to the given message the people in Colosse had ...

.. received Jesus v6 resolved to continue in Him v7 and realised fulness of life in Him v10

(Have we ? If anyone would like to chat about becoming a Christian, growing in their faith, or joining the membership of the church by profession of faith, let me know.)

3 vivid pictures ... of Colosse ... and our congregation ?

Army : firmness look at v5

The tradition of women and children first is called the "Birkenhead drill."
When HMS Birkenhead struck a rock in 1852 the regiment stood firm in ranks to allow the women and children to get into the lifeboats..
It came a byword for firmness fulfilling their duty.

(are we?)

Agriculture : rooted look at v7

planted to grow

(are we growing in our faith)

Architecture : built up look at v 7

The building is going up as planned !

(are our lives going according to God's plan?)



588 Praise the Spirit in creation
breath of God, life's origin
Spirit moving on the waters
forming order, deep within
source of breath for all things breathing
life in Whom all lives begin

Praise the Spirit, close companion
of our inmost thoughts and ways
Who in showing us God's wonders
moves our hearts to love and praise
and God's will to those who listen
by a still small voice conveys

Praise the Spirit Who enlightened
priests and prophets with the word
hidden truths beneath the wisdom
which as yet know not their Lord
by Whose love and power in Jesus
God Himself is seen and heard.

As we give thanks for those who have passed on the good news of Jesus
we pray for those who are passing on good news always relevant in our messed up sad world .
... in countries where there is persecution,
in China which has banned much Christian information on the internet.
in Korea where being a Christian means children being taken from parents



Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

in many countries where being a Christian means being at the bottom of the pile.
.. in our own country praying for those who produce Christian material for internet and young folk
for the envisioning of local presbytery and our Kirk Session
... in our own lives that we may represent Jesus in our daily speech and daily living.

Hear us as we pray for (here add in info from the news, e.g. Ukraine
and as we sum up our prayers in the prayer which Jesus taught all those who loved You to pray

786 May the God of peace go with us
as we travel from this place;
may the love of Jesus keep us
firm in hope and full of grace