

Passage: Read and entire passage

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- Practise: Obey, respond

### Coming into His presence

- 1) Break through the "Walls"
- (Mat 26:41) Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

### Coming into His presence

2) Prepare your heart to be receptive

 Jas 4:6) But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

(context: friendship with the world)

### Coming into His presence

2) Prepare your heart to be receptive

- (Jas 1:6) But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.
- (Jas 1:7) For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

- (Col 2:1) For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face,
- (Col 2:2) that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ,
- (Col 2:3) in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

- (Col 2:4) I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments.
- (Col 2:5) For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ.
- (Col 2:6) Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him,
- (Col 2:7) rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

- (Col 2:8) See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.
- (Col 2:9) For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,
- (Col 2:10) and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

 (Col 2:11) In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,

 (Col 2:12) having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

- (Col 2:13) And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,
- (Col 2:14) by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.
- (Col 2:15) He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

 (Col 2:16) Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath.

• (Col 2:17) These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

- What are the walls that hinder you?
- What is in your heart?
- Is it hard to be obedient or is it easy?