

# Living Rooted Lives

Text: Eph. 3:17

Date: 1-7-24

Being rooted in Christ involves digging our spiritual lives deeply into the things and Person of Jesus Christ whereby we can stand amid life's storms as they batter us. Holding firmly into Jesus Christ will keep us anchored in the depth of His being and character and keep us from being uprooted by the world.

Our lives must be characterized not just by the depth of our roots in Christ. We must allow our lives to be spread out in the life of Christ. We must anchor ourselves to His life, His death, and His resurrection. Our lives must be connected to every part of Christ: His character, His words, and His actions.

## I. Being rooted in Christ involves anchoring oneself in the character of Christ (Eph. 3:17)

Does Jesus Christ feel at home in your heart?

Paul's prayer for the Ephesians was that Jesus Christ would take up residence in their lives and allow Him to do His work in and through them.

Jesus Christ must be the dominating factor, truth, and Person in our lives, attitude, and conduct (BKC paraphrase).

Being rooted (as is being grounded) is in the perfect tense which is indicative of a past result with continuing results in the present time. The emphasis isn't so much on the past action as it is on the "present "state of affairs" resulting from the past action".<sup>1</sup> This is a position as we saw last week where at the moment of salvation (action in the past) we become *rooted in Christ*. But with the position comes the practice that we must continually be rooted in Christ. This perfect tense "pictures the initial 'rooting' the moment we trusted Christ with the result that we continue to be rooted because nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom 8:39-note)" ([https://www.preceptaustin.org/colossians\\_24-71](https://www.preceptaustin.org/colossians_24-71)).

Christians are not to be tumbleweeds blowing around by the shifting culture changes and the winds of doctrine (Eph. 4:14). Christians must not change soils but remain rooted in Jesus Christ. Their practice must continue to come closer each day to their position of rootedness. Since we are already rooted in Christ, there is no need to look elsewhere for spiritual nourishment. Christ and His character give us the strength, stability, and sprouting that we need each day.

Love is only one character trait that we are to be rooted in. We must be rooted in all the character of Christ. What benefit is there to us for being rooted in the things of Christ?

- Being rooted in Christ's character reveals Christ to us. It is the place where we dig and establish ourselves on the foundation that never changes.
- Being rooted in Christ's character brings us hope in trials.
- Being rooted in Christ's character shows us the true heart of Jesus Christ
- Being rooted in Christ's character is the most authentic place to be in our life. There is no superficiality with Jesus Christ.
- Being rooted in Christ's character provides us the best place for enduring the harshest condition of this world.

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<sup>1</sup> Heiser, M. S., & Setzerholm, V. M. (2013; 2013). [Glossary of Morpho-Syntactic Database Terminology](#). Lexham Press.

- Being rooted in Christ's character – and specifically His love – results in awe over Christ's love for us.

## II. Being rooted in Christ results in being anchored on a firm foundation (Eph. 3:17)

**Application/grounded/settle:** “These terms (I Pet. 5:10) all connote strength and immovability, which God wants for all believers as they face the spiritual battle (1 Cor. 15:58; 16:13; Eph. 6:10; 2 Tim. 2:1). He sets them firmly on the truth of divine revelation, where they stand in faith and confidence until they realize their eternal glory”.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (2004). *1 Peter* (p. 287). Moody Publishers.