

- **Colossians 1:9-12**
- **9** For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, **10** so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and **increasing in the knowledge of God;** **11** strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously **12** giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in **Light. NASU**

2011 Theme

Colossians 1:10



**“Increasing in the
knowledge of God”**

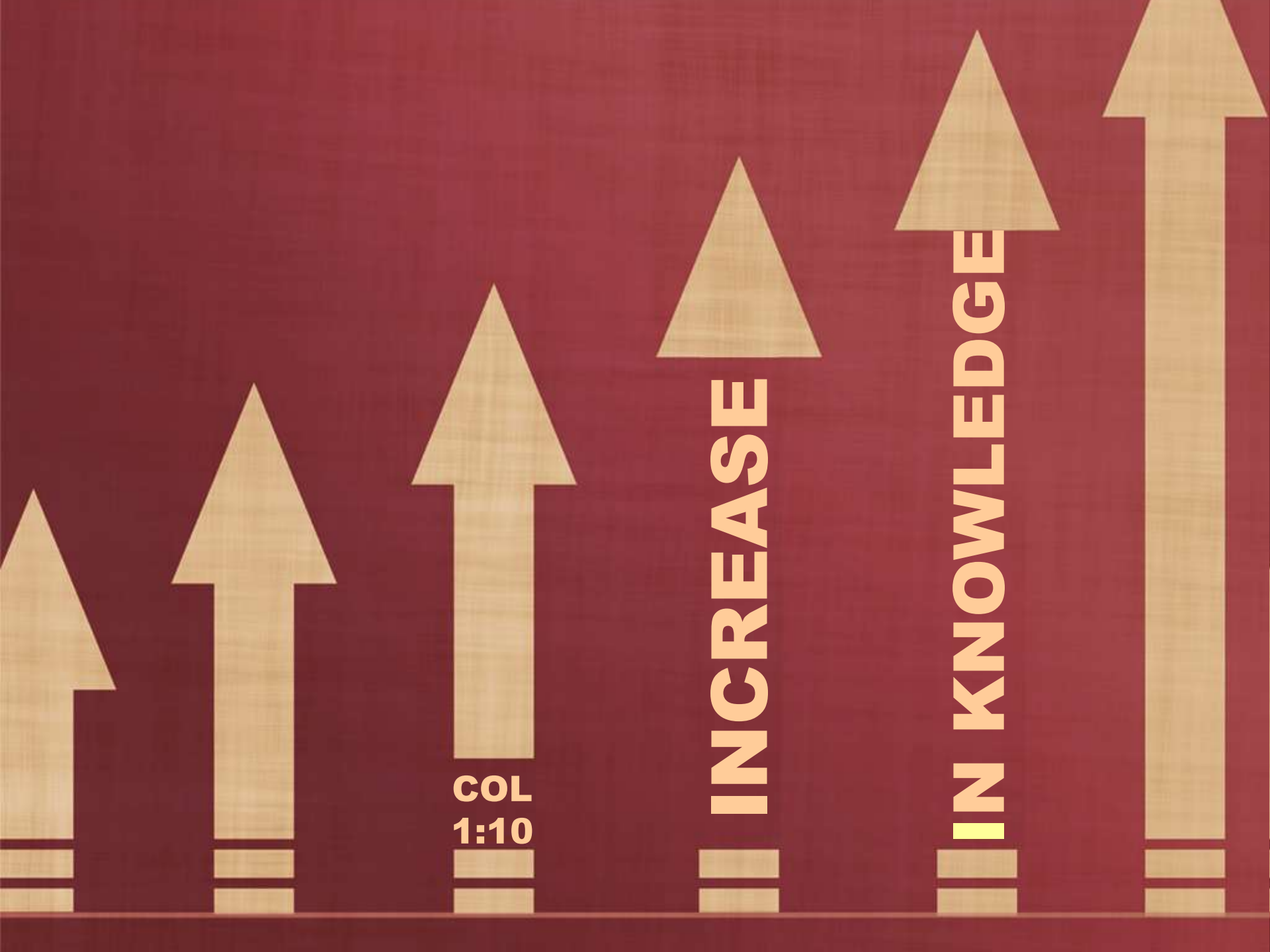


CHRIST

IN

COLOSSAE

A Study of the Book of Colossians



**COL
1:10**

INCREASE

IN KNOWLEDGE

A 3D-rendered graphic featuring a red target with three concentric rings. A red arrow with a gold-colored shaft and a red fletched tail is positioned horizontally, hitting the center bullseye. A white rectangular card is placed over the target, tilted slightly. The card contains the text "Know to Grow" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The entire scene is set against a plain white background with soft shadows cast by the target and arrow.

**Know to
Grow**

- **Col 1:1-2**
- **1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,**
- **2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.**
NASU

Greetings





Colossae

- **City in the Lycus Valley in the region of Phrygia in ancient Asia**
- **Wool and cloth dyeing industry in the area**
- **Had once been very prominent city (Xerxes of Persia had visited).**

Colossae

- Had been surpassed by Laodicea (12 miles away) and Hierapolis (11 miles away)
- Was 110 miles from Ephesus
- Small agricultural town when Paul wrote this letter (60 AD)
- Destroyed by earthquake in 61 AD
- Moved 3 miles away

Colossae

- Paul had not been to this city
- There were people from the region at Pentecost (Acts 2:9-10)
- Epaphras may have started the congregation (definitely had taught them)

Colossians (The Letter)

- **Prison Letter: Caesarea, Ephesus, Rome***
- **Colossians, Ephesians, and Philemon written in close proximity (Philippians shortly after)**
- **Colossians and Ephesians similar**
- **Tychicus (Asia) delivered both letters**
- **Onesimus (Colossian) delivered Philemon and he was with Tychicus when he delivered Colossians**

Colossians (The Letter)

- **Paul warns against falling away (Colossians 2)**
- **May be that he has heard of problems with false teachers**
- **May also be that he simply knows of the culture around Colossae and wants to prevent problems**

Colossian Heresy

- **May be elements of Paganism, Philosophy, and Judaism (especially Judaism)**
- **Is either seeking to address existing problems or prevent future problems**

PRAYER OF PRAISE

- Colossians 1:3-8
- 3 We **give thanks** to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **praying always for you**, 4 since we **heard of your *faith*** in Christ Jesus and the ***love*** which you have for all the saints; 5 because of the ***hope*** laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, **the gospel** 6 which has come to you, just as in all the world also it is constantly **bearing fruit and increasing**, even as it has been doing **in you also** since the day you heard of it and understood the grace of God in truth; 7 **just as you learned it from Epaphras**, our beloved fellow bond-servant, who is a faithful servant of Christ on our behalf, 8 and he also **informed us of your love in the Spirit.** NASU

PRAYER OF PURPOSE: What

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PAUL PRAYED THEY WOULD BE FILLED WITH...

- **KNOWLEDGE:** Full, exact, complete, thorough knowledge; comes through obtaining information
- **WISDOM & UNDERSTANDING:** Practical insight into and application of knowledge
- **SPIRITUAL:** Applies to one's relationship with God



PRAYER OF PURPOSE: What

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PRAYER OF PURPOSE: Why

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THE ONE WHO WALKS IN A WORTHY WAY...

- **Does good works that bear fruit**
- **Increases in Knowledge of Him**
- **Is strengthened (by God) to attain steadfastness & patience**
- **Gives thanks**

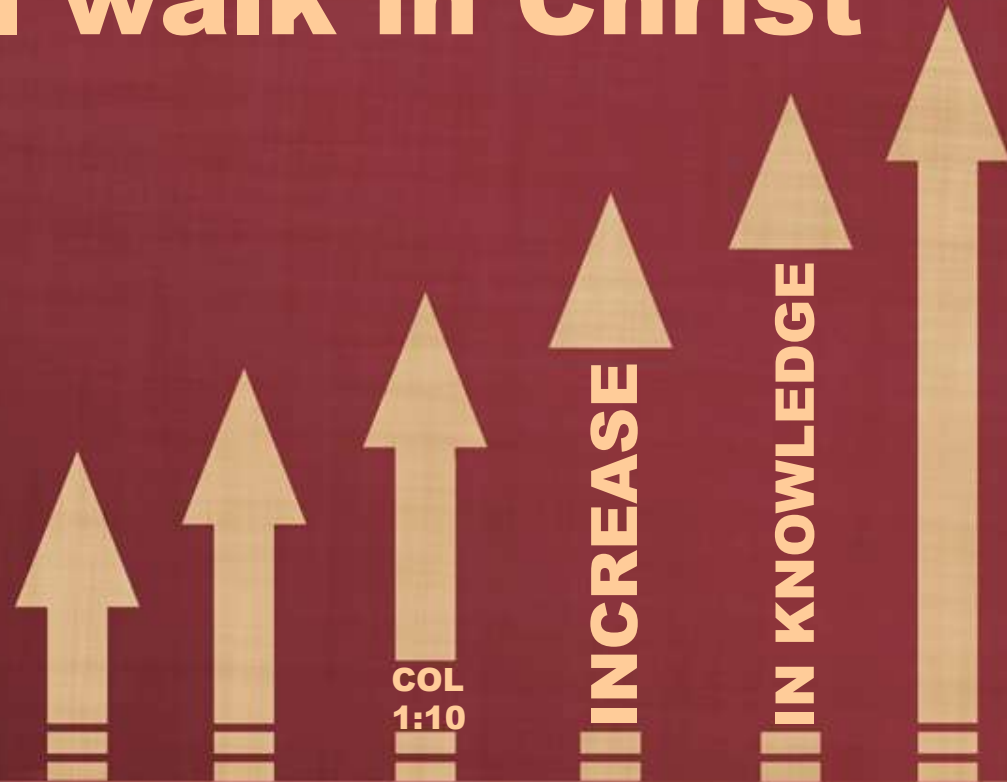


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**Know to
Grow**

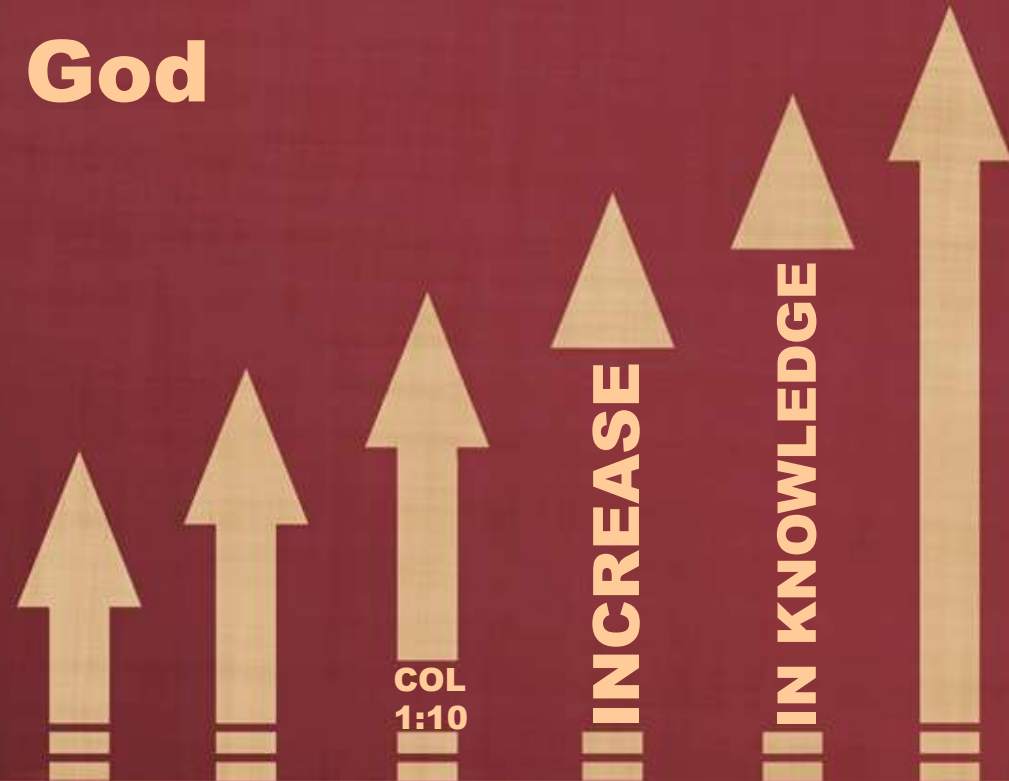
Paul Prayed for Their Knowledge...

- **So they will not be led from Christ**
- **So they will walk in Christ**



Are We Seeking to Grow in Him?

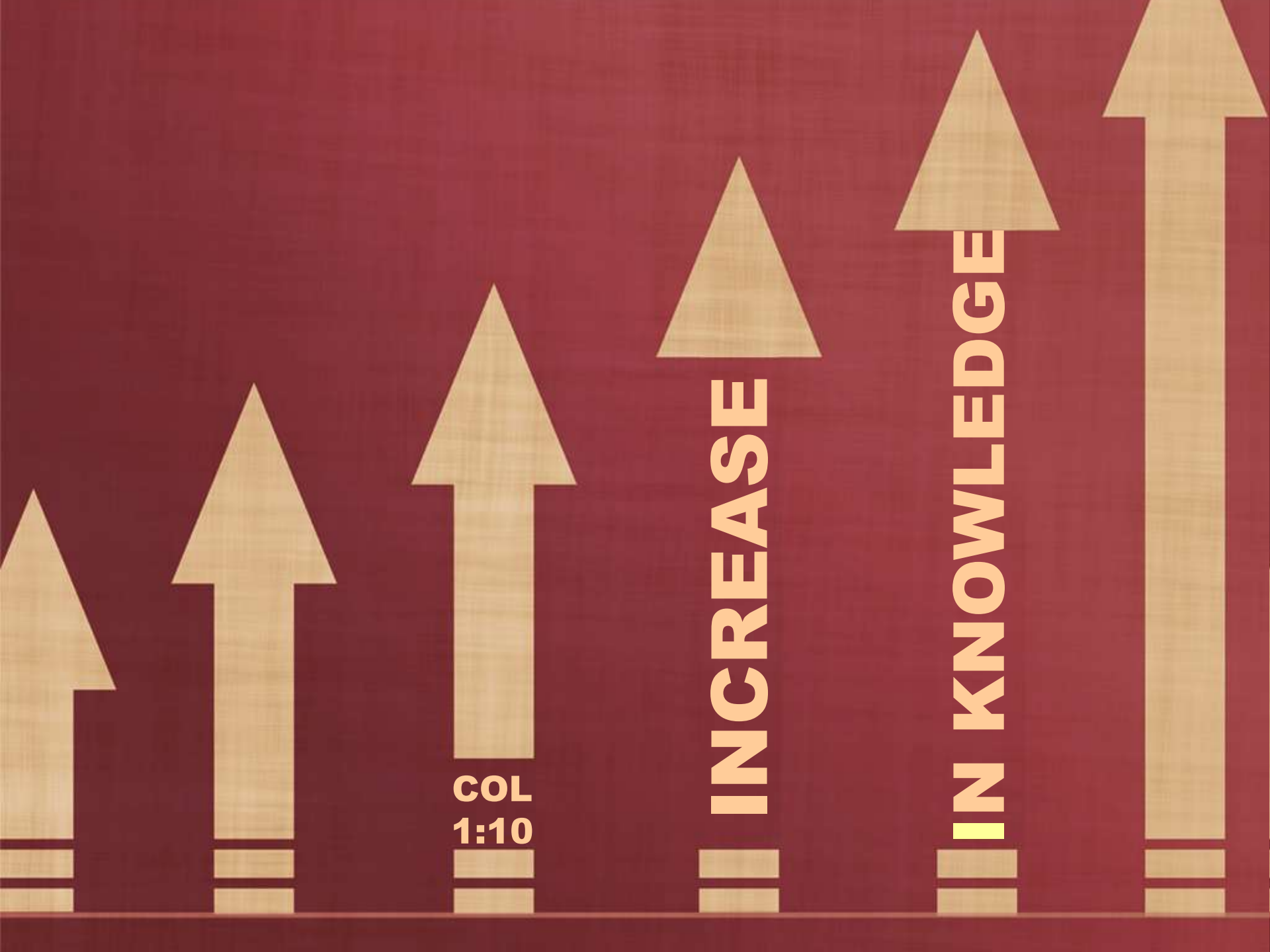
- **Doing good works**
- **Bearing fruit for God**
- **Strengthened to endurance/patience**
- **Giving thanks to God**



Are We Seeking Knowledge?

- **Pray for Knowledge and Wisdom**
- **Worship and study with God's people**
- **Read God's Word regularly for ourselves**
- **Meditate on God's Word**
- **Put God's Word into practice**





**COL
1:10**

INCREASE

IN KNOWLEDGE