

The joy of being made whole (Hebrews 1:9)

I heard a phrase in court the other day that intrigued me. The attorney asked a witness if they had been made whole. The question's gist was whether he had received back all that was taken from him. To be made whole means:

1. To return one to a positive or favorable condition, especially physical or psychological health. *He's gone through quite a traumatic ordeal, and I worry that not even therapy can make him whole again.*
2. To give one financial compensation (as dictated by a legal agreement or ruling) for a loss they have sustained. *The judge ruled that our company needed to make the man whole because his injury on our property had caused a substantial loss to his wages.*

Many people have been defrauded. People have lost thousands of dollars in various scams. There are so many ways the naïve are taken advantage of and they lose much of their savings. Their lives are often severely impacted and rarely are they made whole. But there is joy for those who are fortunate enough to regain what was lost.

What of us who were lost but are now found? We have been made whole. This fact ought to cause us much joy and much thanksgiving! Unfortunately, the prince of this world comes to kill STEAL, and destroy and often we are robbed of joy because we believe the lies of the devil. We look to the circumstances or even our shortcomings forgetting to look to Jesus the one who has made us whole! Restoring our relationship to the shepherd and guardian of our souls.

Healed or Whole

If we just look at the circumstances we miss the bigger picture. Basing our wholeness on our possessions or health we will miss out on the abundant life God has restored to us in Christ. Joy comes in being made whole not just healed.

Luk 17:12 As He entered a village, ten leprous men who stood at a distance met Him;

Luk 17:13 and they raised their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

Luk 17:14 When He saw them, He said to them, "**Go and show yourselves to the priests.**" And as they were going, they were cleansed.

Luk 17:15 And one of them, when he saw that he was **healed**, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,

Luk 17:16 And fell down on *his* face at his feet, giving him thanks: and **he was a Samaritan.**

Luk 17:17 And Jesus answering said, **Were there not ten cleansed?** but where *are* the nine?

Luk 17:18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.

Luk 17:19 And he said unto him, **Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.**

Col 2:9 For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

Col 2:10 and **in Him you have been made complete**, and He is the head over every ruler and authority;

Col 2:11 and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision performed without hands, in the removal of 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 working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Col 2:13 And when you were dead in your wrongdoings and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our wrongdoings,

Col 2:14 having canceled the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

Salvation restores a sound mind and heart for God

The love of God was lost in the garden. Adam and Eve for the first time felt the separation from God. Instead of love, they felt shame. They ran and hid and tried to cover over their shame or nakedness but their need went much deeper than their need for clothing, they needed their wrongdoing covered over to make them whole again. But God promised to provide what they needed.

2Ti 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.(sound mind)

The fire of love in the restored heart is stoked by the scriptures that speak of Jesus! Gospel truths.

Luk 24:32 They said to one another, "Were our hearts not burning within us when He was speaking to us on the road, while **He was explaining the Scriptures to us?**"

Restoration of God's love in the heart of man. The Holy Spirit dwells in us keeping the wick of eternal life from being extinguished.

Be being filled

Unbelief, false teaching and the defrauding work of the devil need to be overcome in the renewing of our minds in the truth. We need help!

- **1Th 3:9** For what thanks can we give to God for you in return for all the joy with which we rejoice because of you before our God,
1Th 3:10 as we keep praying most earnestly night and day that we may see your faces, and may **(mend) complete what is lacking in your faith?**
- **Col 2:18** Take care that no one keeps **defrauding** you of your **prize** by delighting in humility and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on *visions* he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind,
Col 2:19 and not holding firmly to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.
- **2Co 2:10** But one whom you forgive anything, I also *forgive*; for indeed what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, *I did so* for your sakes in the presence of Christ,
2Co 2:11 **so that no advantage (defraud) would be taken of us by Satan**, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.

What is lacking? The cry of our hearts is that our unbelief will be overcome by faith. The operating force is grace! The sufficiency of the unmerited favor of our God and savior fills our hearts and minds with true wisdom and knowledge of God. Looking to Him always for our healing. It is His Spirit that fills up what we are lacking. For He is the helper and the comforter speaking words that will comfort the weary. Love is the better way and the goal of biblical instruction. That which fills the heart to overflowing.

Rom 14:17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

The refiner's fire ensures we lack nothing

Jas 1:2 Consider it all joy, my brothers *and sisters*, when you encounter various trials,

Jas 1:3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

Jas 1:4 And let endurance have *its* perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, **lacking in nothing**.

Jas 1:5 But if any of you **lacks wisdom**, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

Abraham Lincoln noted this in his inauguration of the holiday of Thanksgiving. By the way, Lincoln instituted the holiday in 1862. That's powerfully significant. Even a Civil War should not keep us from deep an abiding gratitude.

So Lincoln said, "We have forgotten the gracious hand which has preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and have vainly imagined in the deceitfulness of our hearts that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us."

<https://gracewavestoday.com/the-difference-between-being-healed-and-being-whole/>

May we be filled with true riches (made whole)

Eph 3:14 For this reason I bend my knees before the Father,

Eph 3:15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,

Eph 3:16 that He would grant you, **according to the riches of His glory**, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner self,

Eph 3:17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; *and* that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

Eph 3:18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and height and depth,

Eph 3:19 and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, **that you may be filled to all the fullness of God**.