I. Introduction.

II. What Paul was toiling and laboring to accomplish.

A. The spread of the gospel and the follow up of new Christians.

B. The opposition of Satan.

C. Strengthening the heart of believers.

D. That believers might be bound together in love.

E. A deeper understanding of God and His Son.

F. That they might stay on track and be steadfast in their race.

G. That they may not be intimidated by the false attacks of the enemy.

H. Jesus Christ in all of His fullness will satisfy these things.

III. Paul consistently speaks about the gospel and the basics of the Christian life.

IV. We are not to be carried away by the slavery of error - hollowness and emptiness reside there.

V. The present reality of Christ.

A. The supremacy of Christ.

1. You set the supremacy of Jesus Christ objectively. (Acts 10:36, Mark 4)
   
   a. Jesus’ control over creation and spiritual forces is evidence of this.
   
   b. For anyone to say they need more than Jesus Christ is blasphemy.
   
   c. In Jesus dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.

2. You set the supremacy of Christ subjectively.

   a. Is He supreme in our daily walk?

   b. We must obey God.

   c. The full and prompt obedience to God’s Word declares Christ supreme.
d. If we would have God use our lives in the salvation of others, we cannot live our lives for self. (Mark 15:31, Luke 23:36-37, Matthew 27:34, Mark 15:29-30, Mark 8:34-35)

B. Completeness in Christ.

C. Our daily walk in Christ.

Application questions

1. How is Jesus shown to be Lord in an objective sense?

2. How is the subjective Lordship of Christ expressed in the term “must” over “ought”?

3. What is keeping you from giving your life to others if anything? What in your life can you give away, so that you’ll never lose it?