

# CHRISTOLOGY NOTES 10

## Discipleship Hour, 9/11/2020

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**Colossians 1:23** if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

You are presented perfect by Jesus Christ, before God BUT we are to present ourselves holy and blameless to Him.

**Romans 12:1-2** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

You are presented perfect by Jesus Christ, before God BUT we are to live in such a way before men.

**1 Peter 1:15-16** but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "*Be holy, for I am holy.*"

**v.23**, "if indeed you continue in the faith" = "Provided that" = Gk. emphatic if = a stout warning to get your state in life equal to your standing in life: What God has done ... You are to enact

Having exercised faith once, you are to continue in it – the Gk. verb is a continuous present. Keep it up.

**Colossians 1:23** if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

How does one continue in the faith? = by not shifting from the hope via the gospel. (This is negative advice.) The positive side is being grounded (stable) and steadfast. Gk. grounded = tethemeliomenoi = well founded (i.e., on a sure foundation).

To be so founded will keep you from “shifting” = Gk. for drifting as of a ship loosing its moorings and moving imperceptibly out of safety.

**Hebrews 2:1** Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.

**Hebrews 6:18-19** that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil,

Don't shift or drift, Colossians, from “Christ in you” = preeminent one.

**Colossians 1:27** To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

#### **Faith guards you:**

**1 Peter 1:5** who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Remember, the gospel is the word of truth. The gospel which is not for the secret cult of Gnostics only, but for every creature – not for the initiated few but for every creature. This is the truth they had heard and it is the only Truth.

**Galatians 1:6** I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,

There is no other gospel than the one Paul preached!

**Romans 6:17** But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.

#### **The gospel Paul ministered:**

**1 Corinthians 15:1-4** Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,

From this point in his letter to 2:8 Paul will continue to define the truth of the gospel, but will take up a new tact and approach the Colossian heresy by means of discussing ministry as a servant of Christ.

**Colossians 1:24-25** I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God,

**v.24-25** in context – since Christ already has been shown as reconciler or rescuer of all things – Paul does not mean the vicarious suffering of Christ – he has to be speaking of the suffering (thlipsis = pressure; never used of the cross) which comes to any servant of God and is using Christ as the supreme model of the servant of the Lord.

**Notice:** “for the sake of his body, which is the church.” In v. 23, the “of which I, Paul, became a minister” refers to the gospel. Here in v. 25 it refers to the church. Paul is (v.23) a minister of the gospel and thereby suffers. In v.25 He is a minister of the church and thereby serves. The point is that Paul's body (v.24) “flesh” suffered so that Christ's body might be served.

In this, Paul rejoiced.

**Hebrews 12:2** looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Mark spoke of, “One hundredfold return with persecutions” – which arise on account of the word.

**Mark 4:20** But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred.”

**Mark 4:17** and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble.

**Heb. 12:2** said, "looking unto Jesus." It continues with why you must:

**Hebrews 12:3** For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

Consider him...so you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

**Psalms 34:19** Many are the afflictions of the righteous, But the Lord delivers him out of them all.

**Colossians 1:25** of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God,

**v.25** – Paul became a minister by the giving of divine office. Gk. oikonomos = steward. He was given; he did not take it to himself. He was given; he could not merit it as a reward, but only receive it as a grace. He could not lay it down for it was entrusted to him and as a steward of the mysteries of God

**1 Corinthians 9:16-17** For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel! For if I do this willingly, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have been entrusted with a stewardship.

He had no option but to act in the interest of the master of the house.

**1 Corinthians 4:1-2** Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.

If only all would do what Jesus wants and says and not what they or the congregation wants: do the word of God and not the activity of men... His great ambition then is to deliver the message of God in full.

**2 Corinthians 6:3** We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed.

**Colossians 1:26** the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.

Thus, giving the revelation of the mystery which always in the gospel means a thing once hidden but now revealed. Men couldn't see any of it because it was to be a "revelation" which would Not be from men and would not be taught and learned.

**Galatians 1:12** For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

**2 Corinthians 3:13-14** unlike Moses, who put a veil over his face so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the end of what was passing away. But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the *veil* is taken away in Christ.

**1 Peter 1:10-13** Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into. Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;