

Colossians – Chapter One and Two

Christ is Pre-eminent in creation (v.15-17), in the church (v.18-19), in redemption (v.20-22) – the goal is to present us holy, unblameable and unreprouvable in the sight of the Lord.

v.23 – Paul was confident that the Colossians would stay grounded and settled in the faith, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel, but highlighted that condition as admonishment. He pointed out that this is the gospel “whereof I Paul am made a minister”. Now he begins to speak about his ministry and call. This is probably important because they have never seen Paul face to face.

v.24-29 – Paul talks of how he suffers for the sake of his call to carry the gospel, and considers his suffering as a continuation of the afflictions that began against Christ. He now suffers for the sake of the body, which is the church. He is a minister, a steward, a trustee, responsibility given to him by God to do his work. Business for the King. Given for the benefit of you, dear Colossians. v. 26 To make known the mystery of God which was hidden but now is revealed. THAT CHRIST MAKES HIS RESIDENCE IN YOU, EVEN THE GENTILES, AND HE IS THE HOPE OF GLORY. Paul preaches, warning and teaching every man (Jew and Gentile) that he may present every man (Jew and Gentile) perfect, complete in Christ Jesus.

Chapter Two

v.1 – He wants them to know how he has struggled for their sake, not in a boasting way, but in a way that would encourage them. Again, he reminds them (and us) that they have not seen his face.

v.2 – He wants them to know so that their hearts would be comforted or encouraged (possibly if they know what suffering he has gone through, they will be encouraged when they experience affliction and suffering for the sake of the gospel. When they suffer because of the decision they have made to believe the gospel message and to live life in a different way from the accepted and expected way of society. Afflicted when they preach this gospel.) As they are knit together (instructed) in love, having the inward wealth of the total confidence in their understanding of Christ and salvation, and understanding that Christ is the key to “the mystery of God.

v.3 – And in Christ is hid all the treasures of WISDOM and KNOWLEDGE. No need to look anywhere else. All wisdom and knowledge is in him.

Ref. Ephesians 3:1-13 (Paul talks of his call, his message and affliction)

Ref: Suffering for the Gospel – I Pet.2:18-24; I Pet.4:12-19