
Colossians

Paul's Ministry

Chapter 1:24-29

Colossians 1 Review

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Colossians 1:24-29

²⁴ Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church,²⁵ of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known,

Colossians 1:24-29

²⁶ the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Colossians 1:24-29

²⁸ Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹ For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

Col 1:24

²⁴ Now I rejoice in my **sufferings** for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church,

Paul's Background

Philippians 3:4-7

Circumcised on the 8th day,

Born into tribe of Benjamin,

Hebrew of Hebrews,

Pharisee,

Zealous in persecuting the Church,

Blameless concerning the Law

Paul's Background

Acts 9:1-

Asked High Priest for written permission to bind Christians and take to Jerusalem.

Called by Jesus to become an Apostle

Jews and Gentiles both sought to kill him

Currently in jail in Rome

Paul's Background

2 Corinthians 11

²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; ²⁶ on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers;

Paul's Background

²⁷ in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.²⁸ And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.

Col 1:24

²⁴ Now I rejoice in my **sufferings for your sake**, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church,

Col 1:25

²⁵ of which I became a minister according to the **stewardship from God** that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known,

Colossians 1:26

²⁶ the **mystery** hidden for ages and generations but now **revealed** to his saints.

Ephesians 3:6

⁶ This **mystery** is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Colossians 1:27

²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, **which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

Ezekiel 36:26-27

²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Colossians 1:28

²⁸ Him we proclaim, **warning** everyone and **teaching** everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone **mature in Christ.**

Colossians 1:9-10

⁹ And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

This is crucial, because in every generation, there are many different “Christs” on offer. Such as:

- The Christ who makes you rich when you sow a seed of faith and donate to one of his preachers.
- Or the Christ who cures sickness when required, but conveniently minds his own business the rest of the time.

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- Or the Christ found in “holy places” (which are not even necessarily Christian “holy places” but which bring tranquility or a sense of belonging), or in “spiritual moments” (such as the “liver shiver” we might get from some amazing music or on making a deep connection with another person).

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- Then there are the more political Christs, like the one who is a courageous defender of family values and their upholders (come what may), while there is another who sides with the oppressed poor, regardless of who is doing the oppressing or the behaviour of the oppressed.

Mark Meynell, [*Colossians & Philemon for You*](#), ed. Carl Laferton, God's Word for You (The Good Book Company, 2018), 68.

Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Colossians 1:29

²⁹ For this I **toil, struggling with all his energy** that he powerfully works within me.

1 Corinthians 15:10

¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

1 Corinthians 15:58

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Colossians

What are Paul's Struggles

Chapter 2:1-5

