

Colossians Study – Part 5

Colossians 1:21-29 (KJV)

- 21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled
- 22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:
- 23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;
- 24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:
- 25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God;
- 26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:
- 27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:
- 28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:
- 29 Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

To bring our thinking together in this Colossians study, we see that Paul is praying for them in Colossae because they were having problems and we see Paul's prayer in verse 9.

Colossians 1:9 (KJV)

For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

Usually you don't pray for a cause unless there is a complication that comes along with that cause. When we have a cause there is a reason, and the reason explains the problem that underlies that cause.

From Paul's prayer in Colossians 1:9-12 we see him identifying that they be filled with knowledge, that they walk worthy, and be strengthened with all might.

Colossians 1:9-11 (KJV)

9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 Strengthened with all

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might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

The hardest thing for Christian's to realize that you must be strengthened from the Lord and not rely on your own strength. We must understand, believe, and acknowledge what Christ has given us and be strengthened from God.

God's might was demonstrated in His resurrection of Christ when He raised Him from the dead. This is the same power that He wrought in Christ as was told in Ephesians 1:20

Ephesians 1:17-21 (KJV)

- 17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:
- 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,
- 19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,
- 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,
- 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

No wonder that Paul is saying in Colossians 1:12 to give thanks...

Colossians 1:12 (KJV)

- 12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

And to emphasize that we have been placed into the kingdom of his dear Son...

Colossians 1:13 (KJV)

- 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

You have been forgiven of your sins! God's forgiven you! Christ died for you and took away your sins and sits with God as the mediator between God and yourself as stated in 1 Timothy 2:5

1 Timothy 2:5 (KJV)

- 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

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What God has done, He has done it for you but it is all on behalf of Christ.

Colossians 1:18-21 (KJV)

- 18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.
- 19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;
- 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.
- 21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

There is a difference between a commercial debt and a moral debt. Commercial debt is when I owe you \$10 dollars and my friend has \$10 dollars that then gives you \$10 dollars to pay my debt which you are willing to accept and I become free of that debt.

Now, if I stole \$10 dollars from you and you are pretty upset about it. My friend still has \$10 dollars and is willing to give it to you to reconcile the debt, but you have the right not to accept it from my friend because the debt now is much greater than \$10 dollars I stole it from you. The moral debt is much greater than the commercial debt.

This is what God has done for us with the sin debt. God does not have to accept payment except for what He has deemed acceptable. God will only accept payment on His terms. God has said that there is no remission of sins without the shedding of blood. As stated in Hebrews 9:22 and Romans 2:23...

Romans 3:23-25 (KJV)

- 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Hebrew 9:22 (KJV)

- 22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

So then payment of God's terms is with the blood of Christ...

2 Corinthians 5:21 (KJV)

- 21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

As it is explained in Isaiah 53:6, 10-11...

Isaiah 53:6 (KJV)

- 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

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10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

God is satisfied with the blood offering of Christ for us to be reconciled to God as it is said in Colossians 1:21-25

Colossians 1:21-22 (KJV)

21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:

23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God;

Paul now has expressed that the ministry that was given to him has been directed toward you. This is clarified in verse 26...

Colossians 1:26 (KJV)

26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

This mystery is something very special that God reserved for you before the foundation of the world. This will be covered in the next lesson.