

Colossians Chapter 1 Part 3

Col. 1:24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you (2Tim.3:12), and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

Paul gloried in his sufferings. Both Jesus and Paul promised that suffering would come to a dedicated follower of Christ who stands for the Word of God. It can result in the following things...

Hatred - John 15:19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but **because ye are not of the world**, but I have chosen you out of the world, **therefore the world hateth you**. *If Jesus said it, you can believe it!*

Loss of Things – Phil. 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have **suffered the loss of all things**, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,

Mistreatment - 1Pet.2:20 For what glory *is it*, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, **when ye do well, and suffer for it**, ye take it patiently, this *is* acceptable with God. Even physical harm (Gal. 6:17).

Col. 1:25-27 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: No man in the Old Testament had Jesus Christ dwelling inside him although they did have “the Spirit of Christ” (1Pet.1:10-12).

Old Testament Salvation	New Testament Salvation
Ps. 51:11, 1Sam. 16:14 - The Spirit came and left Job 15:14, John 3:3-7 - No “new birth”	Sealed by the Spirit – Eph. 1:13-14, 4:30, 2 Cor. 1:22 Born again – 1 Pet. 1:23
Ex. 34:7, Heb. 10:4 - Forgiven, awaiting redemption Gen. 17:11 - Physically circumcised	Redeemed and forgiven – Col. 1:14, Eph. 1:7 Spiritually circumcised – Col. 2:11, Rom. 2:29
Luke 16:23, Eph. 4:8 - Went to Abraham’s Bosom Matt. 6:9, Hosea 11:1 - Corporate Sons of God	Already seated in Heaven – Eph. 2:6, 2 Cor. 5:8 Individual Sons of God – Jn. 1:12, 1Jn. 3:1-3
Isa.54:6, Ez.16, Ex.16:31 - Wife of God, House of Israel	Bride and Body of Christ – Eph. 4:12, 2 Cor. 11:2

Col. 1:28-29 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. Preaching ought to be the foundation of every N.T. church (Ps.40:9, 2Tim.4:2). It manifests the word of God (Tit.1:3). It is the power of God to the Christian (1Cor.1:18). It pleases God and saves the sinner (1Cor.1:21). It warns, teaches, reproves, rebukes, exhorts, corrects, and contains good doctrine.

Colossians Chapter 2

Col. 2:1-3 For I would that ye knew **what great conflict I have for you**, and *for* them at Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh; **2** That their hearts might be comforted, **being knit together in love**, and unto all riches of the **full assurance of understanding**, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; **3** **In whom are hid** all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Paul had a great conflict for his converts. His desire was that they would be knit together in love and have a full assurance in whom they have believed. That they might apprehend that for which they were apprehended – Phil. 3:12.

Vs. 3 – “hid” implies that we must search for it (Pro.2:1-5, 25:2, 18:1). The world has no answers. The answer is in Jesus. All of life’s mysteries are solved in him but a fool has no delight in understanding Pro.18:2.

Furthermore, there are seven mysteries spoken of in 1Cor.4:1 that every Christian (*and certainly every church*) is supposed to be a steward of. **1.)** the incarnation of Christ, 1Tim.3:16. **2.)** the incarnation of Satan, 2Th.2:7. **3.)** the indwelling of Christ, Col.1:27. **4.)** the body of Christ, Eph.1:22-23, 3:6. **5.)** the blindness of Israel, Rom.11:25. **6.)** the rapture, 1Cor.15:51. **7.)** Babylon the Great, Rev.17:5.