



Week 4: The Hope of Glory!

Sunday, November 13th, 2022

† Circle back to last week.... *The Gospel proclaimed*
Colossians 1:23b

† Great cost and great joy
Colossians 1:24

† Laying out the whole Truth
Colossians 1:25

† The Mystery revealed
Colossians 1:26, Ephesians 3:2-6

† Glorious riches
Colossians 1:27a, Ephesians 3:14-21

✝ The Great Hope
Colossians 1:27

- The Hope that we are IN CHRIST
Romans 6:23, 8:1, 12:5, Galatians 3:28, Galatians 3:26,
1 Corinthians 1:30, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Philipians 4:7

- The Hope that Christ is IN US

- The Hope of Glory
2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

Questions for reflection and discussion

- In verse 24 Paul describes his joy to suffer on behalf of the church. The New Testament talks a lot about Christians suffering for their faith. Why is this? What is it about faith in Christ that would cause us to suffer both externally (at the hands of other people and society) and internally (our own inner struggles)?
- In verse 25 Paul describes how God had called him to present- to fully proclaim and fully teach- the fullness and completeness of God’s Word. What may be things we argue and are preoccupied about in Christian culture today that are not part of the ‘fullness of God’s Word?’ How does this statement bring focus and humility into our faith?
- Along with verse 26, read Ephesians 3:1-6 and Ephesians 6:19-20. What is the ‘mystery’ that has now been fully made known, made possible, and fulfilled in Christ? What is still ‘mysterious’ for you about faith in Christ? Consider and discuss how that mystery is ‘made known’ in the person of Jesus.
- Paul proclaims that the ‘glorious riches’ of God’s Word- of God’s work and provision and purpose- is that *Christ is in you*, the person of faith in Jesus. Discuss and describe what it means (the difference it makes) in the *reality of life as it really is* that God-in- Christ (re-read Col 1:15-20) dwells in you by the Holy Spirit. What does this say about your value to God, your source for life, your identity, and the meaning of your life?
- How do we see, share, and express the ‘hope of God’s Glory’ in our lives now?

Next week: Colossians part 2, week 5- Fully Mature; Colossians 1:28-29