
of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, ...

Colossians 2:3 in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Paul's special warning and special joy

Colossians 2:4 I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments.

Colossians 2:5 For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your faith in Christ is.

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Christ in You, the Hope of Glory

Colossians 1:24-2:5

July 30, 2017

Suffering:

Colossians 1:24 Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church.

Filling up what is lacking in X's afflictions

Philippians 1:29 For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him,³⁰ since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

Why is suffering for Christ a privilege?

(For further study: Job 42:5-6; Psalm 119:67; 2 Cor. 4:10; Gal. 6:17; Heb. 12:6

Suffering rewarded: Rom. 8:18; 2 Cor. 4:17; 2 Tim. 2:12; 4:7-8; 1 Pet. 2:20-21; 4:13)

Colossians 1:25 I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness—

Mystery:

Colossians 1:26 ... the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints.

■

■ *Colossians 1:27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

■

■ *Jeremiah 9:23 (RSV) Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches;
²⁴ but let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practice steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth; for in these things I delight, says the LORD."*

The glory of God in You

Christ

The hope of glory

■ *Colossians 1:28 We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.*

The message demonstrated in Paul

■ *Colossians 1:29 To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.*

■ *Colossians 2:1 I want you to know how much I am struggling for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally.*

Colossians 2:2 My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches
