

COLOSSIANS

Proclaiming the
Supremacy of Christ

OUTLINE OF COLOSSIANS

1. Introduction and prayers (1:1-14)
2. The supremacy of Christ and Paul's work proclaiming Him (1:15-2:5)
3. Encouragement to hold firmly to Christ and a warning about false spirituality (2:6-23)
4. Instructions about new life in Christ and the renewed relationships it produces (3:1-4:6)
5. Closing greetings (4:7-18)

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, 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, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. 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. Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

Colossians 1:24-29

PAUL: SERVANT OF THE CHURCH

1. Paul served the church by serving the gospel (v.23, 25-27)
 - The defining center of a church is that the gospel is proclaimed there.
 - "Mystery": previously-hidden-but-now-revealed

PAUL: SERVANT OF THE CHURCH

1. Paul served the church by serving the gospel (v.23, 25-27)
2. Paul served the church by suffering happily for them (v.24)
 - Paul suffered for Jesus in order to complete the work of sharing the good news about Jesus.
 - Have we been so impacted by the calling of Jesus to serve him, that we will even rejoice in our sufferings?

PAUL: SERVANT OF THE CHURCH

1. Paul served the church by serving the gospel (v.23, 25-27)
2. Paul served the church by suffering happily for them (v.24)
3. Paul served the church by toiling for their spiritual maturity (v.28-29)