

## We PROCLAIM Him ~ Colossians 1:24-29

→Scripture Reading - Colossians 1:26-29

### INTRODUCTION

<sup>22</sup> But now He has Reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation... (NIV)

<sup>23</sup> ...This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. (NIV)

### Rejoicing in Suffering?? ~ Colossians 1:24-27

<sup>24</sup> 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.

When believers suffer, Christ ALSO suffers because He indwells us. Constable

<sup>25</sup> I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness <sup>26</sup> the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints.

### IMPLICATION

<sup>24</sup> I am glad when I suffer for you in my body, for I am participating in the sufferings of Christ that continue for His body, the church. (NLT)

**2 Corinthians 1:8-9** (NIV) We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. <sup>9</sup> Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death...

<sup>9</sup> ...But this happened that we might NOT rely on ourselves BUT on God, who raises the dead.

<sup>9</sup> ...But as a result, we STOPPED Relying on ourselves and Learned to rely ONLY on God, who raises the dead. (NLT)

**Hebrews 13:5** (NIV) Keep your lives FREE from the Love of money and be CONTENT with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

For the Lord my Shepherd -Leads me, leads me  
And He is all I need - In the darkest valley  
I know, I know - My Shepherd is ALL I need

## Christ IN You the HOPE of Glory ~ Colossians 1:27-29

<sup>27</sup> 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.

**Christ is willing to DWELL within a Gentile heart.** MacDonald

**Galatians 3:28** (NIV) There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are ALL ONE in Christ Jesus.

<sup>28</sup> We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. <sup>29</sup> To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.

Paul tells us the Truth about faithfulness in ministry. It involves suffering. It's aim is maturity. And it is a lot of hard work. HNTC

<sup>28</sup> So, naturally, we proclaim Christ! We Warn everyone we meet, and we Teach everyone we can, ALL that we know about Him, so that, if possible, we may bring every man up to his full maturity IN Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> This is what I am working at all the time, with all the strength that God gives me. (JBP)

## TAKE AWAY ??

<sup>28</sup> We proclaim HIM, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, SO THAT we may present everyone Mature in Christ. (CSV)

**1 Peter 1:23 - 2:3** (NIV) For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the Living and Enduring WORD of God.

<sup>24</sup> For, All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, <sup>25</sup> but the WORD of the Lord stands forever...

... <sup>2</sup> Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may Grow Up in your salvation, <sup>3</sup> now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. JBP