

Communion Sunday

November 6, 2022

Colossians 1:21-29

Themes:

The deity of Christ, Reconciliation, Redemption, Election, Forgiveness, The nature of the church

Colossians 1:12

...joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.

Colossians 1: 15-20 (The Person of Christ)

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

¹⁶For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on the earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.

¹⁷He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

¹⁸He is also the head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

(The work of Christ)

¹⁹For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, ²⁰and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

(Focus Text) Colossians 1: 21-29

²¹And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, ²²yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach—²³if

indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from **the hope of the gospel** that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and **of which I Paul, was made a minister.**

²⁴Now I rejoice in my suffering for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of **His body, which is the church**, in filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions.

²⁵Of this church **I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit**, so that I might **fully carry out the preaching of the word of God**, ²⁶**that is the mystery that has been hidden** from the past ages and generations, **but has now been manifested to His saints**, ²⁷**to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery** among the gentiles, **which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

²⁸We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, **so that we may present every man complete in Christ.** ²⁹For this purpose also I labor striving according to **His power**, which He mightily works **within me.**

Ephesians 3:14-19

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, ¹⁶that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Benediction

²⁰Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, ²¹to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.