

CHRISTIAN SUFFERING: WHAT'S THE POINT?

Colossians 1:24 - 2:5 – Pastor Logan Beardsley

CHRISTIAN SUFFERING: *What's the Point?*

Paul rejoiced in his sufferings because...

PAUL'S SUFFERINGS HAD A POINT:

1. To _____ God's hidden mystery: Christ _____. (1:24-26)
2. To _____ the riches of the hope of glory: Christ _____. (1:27-29)
3. To _____ for deeper understanding: Christ _____. (2:1-3)
4. To _____ for uninterrupted allegiance: Christ _____. (2:4-5)

Paul rejoiced in his sufferings because...

HE WAS PART OF SOMETHING _____ (2:5b)

WHAT WILL WE DO WITH OUR SUFFERINGS?

Works Cited: (1) N.T. Wright, *Colossians and Philemon TNTC Commentary*, (2) Peter O'Brian, *Colossians, Philemon Word Biblical Commentary*, (3) Phil Thomson article on the Gospel Coalition, *What Does It Mean to 'Fill Up What's Lacking in Christ's Afflictions'?* Fill in the Blanks: (1) display, died for you, (2) proclaim, in you, (3) intercede, for you, (4) contend, alone (5) bigger than himself.

Colossians 1:24-2:7

April 28, 2024

1. What is a key activity you do that helps you grow in Christ?
2. Discuss something from this week's sermon or Reading Plan.
3. Read Colossians 1:24-25. "Christ's afflictions" are referring to Paul's trials that help him be more like Jesus. Why should we rejoice in our afflictions, too?
4. Read Colossians 1:26-27. What is the mystery that is revealed in verse 27?
 - What is the result of the mystery being revealed? (verse 27)
 - What is "the hope of glory?"
5. Read Colossians 1:28-29. Look at what Paul does here. He proclaims, warns, and teaches about Christ. To what end?
 - Describe what Christian maturity looks like.
 - What steps can you take to grow in maturity?
6. Read Colossians 2:1-3. Paul struggles for the Laodiceans & the Colossians for the following things. Discuss how it would look today.
 - *Their hearts may be encouraged*
 - *Being knit together in love*
 - *To reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding*
7. Read Colossians 2:4. Paul is concerned they are not led astray by "plausible arguments," good sounding but false doctrines. Discuss what those might be today.
 - How are the things in verses 1-3 essential for not being deluded with "plausible arguments?"
8. Read Colossians 2:5-7. Discuss how the following produce maturity in Christ.
 - *As you received Christ, so walk in him (verse 6)*
 - *Rooted, built up, established in Him, just as you were taught (verse 7)*
 - *Abounding in thanksgiving (verse 7)*
9. Which area of maturity can you challenge yourself to grow in?
 - Encouraging • Loving • Understanding the gospel • Walking in Christ • Thanksgiving

Pray for each other!