

Communion Meditation – Colossians

Colossians 1.27-29

“Christ in Us”

May 15th, 2016

Our Relationship to Christ (Read Col 1.19-29)

- vss 19-23 ~ “Christ in Place of Us”
- vss 24-26 ~ “Us in Place of Christ”
- Today’s message is “Christ in Us”

The Analogy of Marriage

- In Eph 5.32 Paul wrote of “two becoming one” as a “great mystery”
 - This “mystery” came to mind as he wrote of marriage
 - But this mystery concerned “Christ and the church”

v27 ~ “God willed to make known .. the riches of the glory of this mystery”

- This “mystery .. is Christ in you, the hope of glory”
- This mystery refers to a truth God had hidden until now
 - That truth was the gospel / an enduring bond between God and man
 - People thought of God as entirely “other” / no longer that simple
- It is only this that gives us a basis for hope

v28 ~ “preach .. warning .. teaching . present” -> “every man”

- Hope for unbelievers comes in many forms / it’s placed in many things
 - *Relationships, philosophies, education, jobs, progress, experiences*
- But the believer can take little comfort in all of these
 - The believer knows hope must rest in God alone
 - All other repositories of hope will fail us / temporally and eternally
- Only perfection is acceptable to God / Perfection comes only through Christ

v29 ~ “labor .. striving . mightily”

- Paul gave all of his life and strength to building, strengthening the church
 - *Planning, re-planning, coordination, public evangelism*
 - *Preaching, personal ministry, letter writing*
 - *Traveling, hardships and persecution*
- Yet it was God working mightily in and through Paul

God worked in and through Paul / God works in and through us

All of God’s striving leads to perfection, leads to Christ’s victory in us and through us