"Christ our Treasure"

May 22nd, 2016

Colossians 1 Overview

- Paul began his letter commending faith and defending divinity of Christ
 - o "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation."
- He went on to describe 3 aspects of our relation to Christ
 - o Christ in place of Us, Us in place of Christ, and Christ in Us

Colossians 2

- In vss 1-15 we have another 3-fold variation on a theme
 - Christ our Treasure, Christ our Master, and Christ our Savior
- Today's message concerns Christ as our Treasure / Read vss 1-5

Paul's Burden

- Paul makes this personal in vss 1 to 5
 - o **v1** ~ "I want", "great conflict I have", "my face"
 - o v4,5 ~ "this I say", "I am absent", "I am with you"
- Paul was passionate for Christ / But also for people's souls
- His goals are in **v2** / His desire is that they be:
 - o "encouraged", united, "attain riches", and "understanding", of
 - o "the mystery of God .. the Father and Christ"
- And in v5 he rejoices to see their "good order" and "steadfastness"

Christ our Treasure

- v3 ~ Paul describes Christ as being a source of "hidden treasure"
 - o Regarding Christ he says, "in whom are hidden all the treasures.."
- Last week I talked about gold rushes (CA '49, CO '59, MO '63)
 - o Miners were often robbed attempting to leave with their gold
 - Burying treasure was a means of preserving it for later
- <u>III</u>: "X marks the spot" ~ "Indiana Jones / Last Crusade"
 - "We do not follow maps to buried treasure, and X never ever marks the spot."
 - X ("ch") is a letter in the Greek alphabet / "Christos" or "Xristos"
 - Such maps point to treasure, but not of "wisdom and knowledge"

Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will also be."

He warned us to not lay up treasure on earth, but in Heaven, where He is