

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: The Mystery of Christ

PASSAGE: Colossians 1:21-29

DATE: July 5, 2020

I. Jesus Radically Rescues (v. 21-23)

A. The problem (v. 21)

B. The price (v. 22a)

C. The purpose (v. 22b)

D. The condition (v.23)

- “Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.” – Ep 5:25b-27

II. Jesus is Supreme in the Church (v. 24-25)

Two Reasons Paul Rejoices:

A. His suffering is for the good of the church.

- “When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. 10 They cried out with a loud voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?” 11 Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.” – Revelation 6:9-11

B. His suffering is making the Word more fully known

- “We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.” – 2 Corinthians 4:8-12
- “Our willingness to endure hardship for the good of others is a filling up of Christ’s afflictions because it extends the benefits of Christ’s death to others and makes them visible.” – John Piper

III. Jesus is the Pathway to Spiritual Maturity (v. 28-29)

- “People do not drift toward holiness. Apart from grace-driven effort, people do not gravitate toward godliness, prayer, obedience to Scripture, faith, and delight in the Lord. We drift toward compromise and call it tolerance; we drift toward disobedience and call it freedom; we drift toward superstition and call it faith. We cherish the indiscipline of lost self-control and call it relaxation; we slouch toward prayerlessness and delude ourselves into thinking we have escaped legalism; we slide toward godlessness and convince ourselves we have been liberated.” – D.A. Carson

SERMON OUTLINE CONTINUED

Three Ways to Walk in the Pathway of Christ to Spiritual Maturity

1. Connect the Bible to Jesus
2. Converse with others about Jesus
3. Compare your temptations to Jesus

Discussion/Reflection Questions:

1. When you think about your own “Rescue Story” of how Jesus saved you, what are you most thankful for?
2. In what ways does suffering help make the Word more fully known?
3. What are some practical ways you can spiritually mature through Christ?