

LESSON 6: COLOSSIANS 1:16-2:7

Qualified to Share in the Inheritance of the Saints in Light (cont'd)

1. What was created by Christ (v. 16)? What has been redeemed through Christ (v. 20)? Why is this important? What does this tell you about Christ? What did Christ come before, what does he hold together (v. 17)? What does this mean to you? What does this tell you about Christ?
2. What does it mean that Christ is the “head of the body, the church” (v. 18)? In what kind of respect is he to be held? In what kind of respect is he really held today?
3. After reading verses 19-20, express the ways in which Christ reflects God’s image and purposes.
4. Why did Christ die for you (v. 22)? How are you to respond (v. 23)? To whom does Paul say the Gospel has been preached? How did this happen?

Paul’s Interest in the Colossians

1. What does Paul mean when he writes of “filling up what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body” (v. 24). How intimately and in what ways are Christ and his Church related? Are we involved in this?
2. What does it mean “to make the word of God fully known” (v. 25)? Think about “fully.” Can the word of God be made more fully known at your? How?
3. Why was the word of God a “mystery hidden for ages and generations” (v. 26)? Who has revealed that which was hidden? Is the word still a mystery, who continues to reveal it, and what is your part?

4. Paul speaks of his life's desire in verses 28-29. What is Paul's work? Examine the sequence of the verbs. Is it your desire to present every person mature in Christ? How hard does Paul work and who is it that inspires him? Where do you go when you are tired, stressed, at the end-of-your-rope?

5. Paul speaks of "how great a struggle" he has for the saints in Colossae and Laodicea (2:1), yet he has never seen them. How has he been exerting himself for them? Can you exert yourself for someone else in the same way?

6. What does Paul hope will be accomplished through his toil (2:2-3)? What do you hope will be accomplished through your toil? Why is it important to you that "all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" are hidden in Christ (v. 2:3)?

7. What does Paul mean by "plausible arguments" (v. 4)? What are some "plausible arguments" you may have heard lately?

8. What does it mean to you to be "rooted and built up in him," "established in the faith," and "abounding in thanksgiving" (v. 2:7)? Notice the sequence of the verbs rooted and built up, established, abounding!