

Jesus Has No Equal

Colossians 1:14-23

The believer should honor Christ as his preeminent Lord

A. Christ's Incomparable Person (1:14-19)

1. Redeemer (14)

To buy back and release a prisoner or captive by paying a ransom

1 Peter 3:18, 1 Corinthians 6:20, Psalm 103:12

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A. Christ's Incomparable Person (1:14-19) - continued

2. Revelator (15) - Philippians 2:5-11

a. Image of God

b. Firstborn = Preeminent (v 18)

c. CHRIST IS GOD

1). Always existed - Isaiah 9:6, Micah 5:2

John 1:1-2, John 8:58

2). Unchangeable - Hebrews 13:8, Malachi 3:6

3). All powerful - Philippians 3:21, Revelation 1:8

4). All knowing - John 2:25, Colossians 2:3,

John 21:17

5). Omnipresent - Psalm 139:7-10, Matthew 18:20,

Matthew 28:20, Ephesians 1:23

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A. Christ's Incomparable Person (1:14-19) - continued

3. Creator (16-17)

a. Combated Gnostic view that God created Jesus

b. Jesus is Creator (16)

John 1:3-4

c. Jesus is eternal (17)

Revelation 1:18

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A. Christ's Incomparable Person (1:14-19) - continued

4. Head of the Church (18)

- a. First place in position - Head**
- b. First place in time - Beginning**
- c. First place in lineage - Firstborn**
- d. First place in power – Preeminence**

5. Fully God (19)

- a. “all fullness dwell” = The fullness of God resides in Jesus**

Colossians 2:9

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B. Christ's Incomparable Work (1:20-23)

1. Reconciling sinners (20-21)

a. By His blood (20)

b. By a peace treaty with God (21)

2 Corinthians 5:18-21

2. Perfecting saints (22-23)

a. Christ's goal to present us "holy and unblameable and unreprouvable" (22)

b. If we ...(23)

1). Continue in the faith

2). Are grounded and settled

3). Do not depart from "the hope of the Gospel"

Why Paul Preached Christ

Colossians 1:24-29

The ultimate purpose of ministry is to guide others to spiritual maturity.

I. He Had Compassion (1:24)

Colossians 1:24

Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

I. He Had Compassion (1:24)

A. He suffered gladly

1. How did he suffer?

1 Corinthians 4:10-13

10 We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honourable, but we are despised.

11 Even unto this present hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no certain dwellingplace;

12 And labour, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it:

13 Being defamed, we intreat: we are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring of all things unto this day.

2 Corinthians 11:23-33

23 Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.

24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.

25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;

2 Corinthians 11:23-33 - continued

27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?

30 If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities.

2 Corinthians 11:23-33 - continued

31 The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not.

32 In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the damascenes with a garrison, desirous to apprehend me:

33 And through a window in a basket was I let down by the wall, and escaped his hands.

I. He Had Compassion (1:24)

A. He suffered gladly - continued

2. Why did he suffer?

a. Because Christ suffered

John 16:33

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

I. He Had Compassion (1:24)

A. He suffered gladly - continued

2. Why did he suffer?

b. To experience the power of God

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

I. He Had Compassion (1:24)

B. He suffered humbly

- 1. Because he knew how much Christ suffered for him**

2 Corinthians 5:21

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Isaiah 53:10

Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

I. He Had Compassion (1:24)

1 Peter 1:18-19

18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

I. He Had Compassion (1:24)

B. He suffered humbly - continued

2. Because it is a mark of identification

Philippians 1:29

For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

Galatians 6:17

From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

II. He Had Convictions (1:25-27)

Colossians 1:25-27

25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God;

26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

II. He Had Convictions (1:25-27)

A. About his ministry (25)

1. He was a minister for God

minister = *diakonos* = servant (deacon)

John 13:4-5

4 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.

5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

Christ was his role model

II. He Had Convictions (1:25-27)

A. About his ministry (25) - continued

2. He had a sacred trust from God to the Gentiles dispensation = stewardship

Romans 11:13

For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:

1 Timothy 2:7

Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.

II. He Had Convictions (1:25-27)

B. About his message (26-27)

The mystery of Christ is the Gentiles

Ephesians 3:3-6

3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,

4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:

1. Equal standing with the Jews

2. Equal “hope of glory” with the Jews

II. He Had Commitment (1:28-29)

Colossians 1:28-29

28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

29 Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

A. To declare Christ (28a)

Christ was the central focus of his message

B. To disciple Christians (28b-29)

Spiritual growth was his goal for every believer

Philippians 1:21

**For to me to live is
Christ, and to die is
gain.**