**Colossians Chapter 1 Part 3**

**Colossians 1:21** And you, that were **sometime alienated and enemies** in *your* mind **by wicked works**, yet now hath he reconciled **Vs.22** In the body of his flesh through death (*we could only be reconciled through death*), to present you **holy** and **unblameable** (Eph. 1:4) and **unreproveable** in his sight: (vs. 12 “…*made us meet*…”)

Wicked works have corrupted our minds which caused us to be alienated and enemies of God. Even as believers our minds need to be transformed and renewed (Rom. 12:1-2) by the “washing of water by the word” (Eph. 5:26).

**Holy, unblameable, unreproveable**: This is the state of the soul for every believer, even though we must continually develop these traits (*our standing*) in our mortal bodies (Rom. 6:12, 1 Thess. 5:23, 1 Tim. 3:2,10).

**Col. 1:23** If ye continue in the faith **grounded and settled**, and ***be* not moved away** from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

“If ye continue in the faith…” This is either teaching that you must “maintain” your salvation (Calvinism calls this perseverance) or it is teaching that we are to grow in our faith to gain reward at the judgement seat of Christ. Since Paul never taught perseverance, we subscribe to the latter interpretation. Paul **does** teach that a Christian is responsible to live for the Lord (vs. 10, 28, Tit. 2:11-14). Continue – 2 Tim. 3:14, James 1:25

To properly prepare for the judgement seat of Christ we deny our flesh, attend church, read our bible, pray, fellowship with believers, witness to others, and more. We need to be “grounded and settled” so we aren’t “moved away”.

**Col. 1:24** Who now **rejoice in my sufferings for you** (2 Tim. 3:12), and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

Paul gloried in his sufferings. Jesus and Paul both promised that suffering would come to a dedicated follower of Christ. Suffering will come as a result of living the Christian life and standing for the Word of God. It can result in people hating you, the loss of worldly gain, and even physical harm (*Paul bore in his body the marks of Jesus* Gal. 6:17).

Hatred **- John 15:19** If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but **because ye are not of the world**, but I have chosen you out of the world, **therefore** **the world hateth you**.

Loss of Things **– Phil. 3:8** Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have **suffered the loss of all things**, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,

Mis-treated - **1 Peter 2:20** For what glory *is it*, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, **when ye do well, and suffer *for it***, ye take it patiently, this *is* acceptable with God.

**Col. 1:25-27** 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; **Vs.26 *Even* the mystery which hath been hid** **from ages and from generations**, but now is made manifest to his saints: **Vs.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: No man in the Old Testament had Jesus Christ dwelling inside him but they did have “the Spirit of Christ” (1 Pet. 1:10-12).

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| **Old Testament Salvation**  Ps. 51:11, 1 Sam. 16:14 - The Spirit came and left  Job 15:14, John 3:4-7 - No “new birth”  Ex. 34:7, Heb. 10:4 - Forgiven, awaiting redemption  Gen. 17:11 - Physically circumcised  Luke 16:23, Eph. 4:8 - Went to Abraham’s Bosom  Matt. 6:9, Hosea 11:1 - Corporate Sons of God  Ezekiel 16, Ex. 16:31 - Wife of God and house of Israel | **New Testament Salvation**  Sealed by the Spirit – Eph. 1:13-14, 4:30, 2 Cor. 1:22  Born again – 1 Pet. 1:23  Redeemed and forgiven – Col. 1:14, Eph. 1:7  Spiritually circumcised – Col. 2:11, Rom. 2:29  Already seated in Heaven – Eph. 2:6, 2 Cor. 5:8  Individual Sons of God – John 1:12, 1 John 3:1-3  Bride and Body of Christ – Eph. 4:12, 2 Cor. 11:2 |

**Col. 1:28-29** 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.

Preaching ought to be the foundation of every N.T. church (Ps. 40:9). It manifests the word of God (Tit. 1:3). It is the power of God to the Christian (1 Cor. 1:18). It pleases God and saves the sinner (1 Cor. 1:21). It warns, teaches, reproves, rebukes, exhorts, corrects and contains good doctrine (Col. 1:28, 2 Tim. 4:2).