

# “Giving The Lord Preeminence”

## Part 4

October 22, 2023

**Scripture Text: Colossians 1:27-29 ESV** <sup>27</sup>To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup>Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. <sup>29</sup>For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

**VERSE 27** *To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

God had purposed that all of those who bore His image and likeness would be present with Him in Heaven. He chose the one people to make known to all nations His great power and favor that He would bestow upon them, who faithfully loved and obeyed. **John 1:11-13 ESV** *11 He came to his own and his own people did not receive him. 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.* This mystery is that the work of Christ would continue by the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit in each person who believed in Him (Jew and Gentile). God would take us weak things and confound the wise of this world.

We all share in the glory of God’s character in the abiding person of Holy Spirit within us. **We all share in** the glory of Christ presence when we gather in His name to worship God in spirit and truth. **We all share in** various afflictions that through them Christ is magnified! **We all share in** the hope of the greater glory of being in His eternal presence in Heaven. **Hallelujah!**

**VERSE 28** *Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.*

Paul recognized that Jesus Christ was the Son of God who came to save sinners who were separated from God. He dedicated his entire life to proclaiming salvation in Christ Jesus. When he preached, his focus was on Jesus Christ and God’s great plan of salvation, love and grace for all mankind. His goal was to preach to as many Gentiles as possible.

**He preached...** *Jesus died, was buried, rose from the grave and that we are saved by grace! It isn't doing good deeds as others would ascribe to.*

At every opportunity he would share the wisdom that the Lord had imparted to him in all his trials and victories. In his writings to the church in Rome: **Romans 5** he wrote, how we were **justified** by faith, having **peace** with God, glorying Him in our suffering, that **suffering** producing perseverance, that **perseverance** producing hope and that **hope** in Jesus Christ will never put us too same!

**He knew** that it was God's will that none should perish without knowing that Jesus came to save the lost. **He was driven** to take every opportunity to share Christ and warn people of God's judgement for rejecting His Son.

The goal of Paul was that every man would stand with Christ in maturity of faith and in the word God.

**VERSE 29** *For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.*

Paul **depended upon the anointing and strength from the Lord** to carry out his duty in sharing the word of God that men might be saved. We can be encouraged by his times of being persecuted, imprisoned, beaten, ship wrecked and left for dead; When we read **Philippians 4:11-13 NKJV** *11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: 12 I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things, I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

### **Applications:**

We can rejoice in our sufferings, knowing the reward will be far greater!

God reveals the mystery of His will through the preaching and teaching of His word.