

Study Notes For Colossians (Chapter Two)

Colossians 2:1 –

- Paul had great conflict [contention; fight, race; cf. **I Timothy 6:12**, **II Timothy 4:7**, and **Hebrews 12:1**] for them and the saints in Laodicea. This epistle is written to both congregations (**Colossians 4:12-16**).
 - * Conflict physically (**Colossians 1:24**, **Philippians 1:22-30**, and **I Thessalonians 2:1-2**).
 - * Conflict mentally (**I Thessalonians 3:1-8**).
 - * The context will reveal that his concern wasn't just "social", but spiritual in nature. There was reason for concern (**Colossians 2:20-23**).
- Paul genuinely (**Romans 12:9-10**, **I Peter 1:22**, and **I Peter 4:8**) cared for brethren (**Philippians 1:8** and **I Thessalonians 2:8**).
- He genuinely cared about seeing them in person as he displayed with other saints as well (**Acts 20:25-38**).
- One cannot underestimate the value of SEEING how brethren do over hearing how they do (**Acts 15:36**, **Philippians 2:19-24**, **II John 1:12**, and **III John 1:13-14**).
- Think of Paul's workload (**II Corinthians 11:28**) and yet he had the room in his heart to genuinely care about brethren instead of just having some sort of business-like client list (i.e. **II Timothy 1:3-4**). Isn't this the Lord's desire of all of us (**Matthew 25:31-46**)?

Colossians 2:2 –

- Paul's motivation for desiring to see them in person was that their hearts might be comforted (**II Corinthians 1:3-4**, **II Corinthians 7:4-7** [cf. **II Corinthians 2:12-13**], and **I Thessalonians 5:11-14**).
- Comforted hearts of brethren knit [united; compacted] together (**Acts 4:32**, **Ephesians 4:16**, and **Colossians 2:19**) in love (**John 13:34-35**, **John 15:12-13**, **John 15:17**, **Romans 12:10**, **Galatians 5:13**, **I Thessalonians 4:9**, **Hebrews 13:1**, **I Peter 1:22**, **I Peter 3:8**, **I John 3:8-21**, and **I John 4:7-21**).
- Now we come to the word "unto". The word "unto" jumps off the page to me here. There are some things we are not going to learn in this lifetime (i.e. **I John 3:1-3**). We do not and cannot fully discern God in this lifetime, so we know the full understanding of Him is yet to be (**Psalms 145:3**, **Isaiah 40:28**, and **Romans 11:33-36**).
- Unto all riches [spiritually speaking] (**II Corinthians 8:9**, **Ephesians 1:7**; **1:18**, and **Hebrews 11:24-26**). **KEEP THIS IN MIND WHEN WE DISCUSS VERSE 3**.
- Having full assurance [confidence] (**Hebrews 10:22-23**). Note the tie to the subject of hope and that is forward looking (**Hebrews 6:11**; cf. **Romans 8:24-25**).
- Acknowledgment [full discernment] of understanding [putting together] the mystery (**Romans 16:25-26**, **I Corinthians 2:6-7**, **Ephesians 1:9**, **Ephesians 3:1-11**, **Colossians 1:26-27**, **I Timothy 3:9**, and **I Timothy 3:15-16**). Yet...

- Full discernment of the Father and Son is to come (**John 17:24**). Some is attainable now as far as what is revealed (**I Corinthians 2:9-16** and **I John 5:20**). Yet, the treasures (vs. 3) are to be discovered in the life to come.

Colossians 2:3 –

- The language of this verse is NOT that wisdom and knowledge are hid in Christ. The language is that in Christ are “*hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge*”. In verse 2 we discussed “unto” showing things were still in the future for them. The key words in this passage are “hid” and “treasures” (cf. **Matthew 13:44-50**).
- The HIDDEN treasures of wisdom and knowledge found through Christ are reserved in Heaven (**Matthew 19:16-21** and **Luke 12:32-34**). The treasures of wisdom and knowledge are to be found in the future (**Ephesians 2:6-7**).
 - There is a treasure, not hidden, available to us now (**II Corinthians 4:1-7**).
 - The wisdom and knowledge of God are not hidden (**I Corinthians 2:1-16** and **II Timothy 3:14-17**).
 - Even to them, Paul had prayed for them to have wisdom and knowledge (**Colossians 1:9-11**). This, for them, would have been accomplished through spiritual gifts (**I Corinthians 12:1-11**; cf. **Exodus 31:1-3**).
- Godly wisdom and knowledge will bring about a treasure (**Proverbs 24:13-14**).
 - The wisdom of God is by far different than the wisdom of the world (**Jeremiah 9:23-24**, **I Corinthians 3:18**, and **James 3:13-18**).
 - God is certainly the source of true knowledge and wisdom (**Psalms 19:7**, **Psalms 111:10**, **Proverbs 2:6**, and **Proverbs 9:10**) and a credible source at that (**I John 3:20**).

Colossians 2:4 –

- Teaching others to prevent them from being beguiled (**Acts 20:20-32**, **II Corinthians 11:1-15**, **Galatians 2:1-5**, **Ephesians 5:6-11**, and **II Timothy 3:13-17**).
- It is a work of evangelists to teach and work to put measures in place to prevent the saints from being beguiled (**I Timothy 1:3-7** and **Titus 1:5-14**).
- This includes identifying those who teach those false doctrines among the saints (**Romans 16:17-18**, **I Timothy 1:19-20**, **II Timothy 2:14-18**, **II Timothy 3:1-9**, **II Timothy 4:14-15**, and **III John 1:9-11**).
- Beware that we know false teachers often use deceptive words to entice [persuasive language] us (**Jeremiah 6:14-15**, **Ezekiel 13:10-16**, **II Timothy 4:1-5**, **II Peter 2:1-3**, **II Peter 2:17-19**, **Jude 1:16**, and **Revelation 2:20-23**).
- Now consider this: “*But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived*” (**II Timothy 3:13**).

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