

Announcements

Want to keep up on what's going on around here? Drop your info card in the offering plate and we'll add you to the e-letter list.

Communities:

This is where we gather to pray, study and encourage one another as part of the missional work of the Gospel. We would love to get to know you more, and this is one of the best ways to get planted as a part of Seaside.

Please consider joining a Community to strengthen the not only your family, but the larger community.

Contact eric@seasidechurch.com for info on where groups meet or to lead/host one.

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Colossians 1:24-29

Filling up what is lacking in Christ's Afflictions

If the book of Colossians or all the epistles for that matter are letters written to a community of believers, then why don't we just read it through like a letter? Why do we desire to break down each verse and word and search for not only the context of the words and propositions made by the writer, but also look for the poetic nature and unity of the message? Are we taking something that was supposed to only be a letter and making it into something much bigger?

Colossians 1:24-29, To understand the themes or propositions of this section of scripture we actually have to look at it in reverse order. We see in v. 29 what the theme of the section is that is what is the purpose that Paul labors? We see in the previous verse, v. 28, why he labors. Verse 28 tells us how he is going to present everyone complete in Christ. Verses 25-27 then show us what he is proclaiming. Verse 25 tells us why he is proclaiming. Through these verses, Paul then shows us the motivation and reason for v. 24.

So now that we understand the overall theme of what Paul is proposing, let's work through the verses in the correct order starting in v. 25 and in doing that hopefully understand the context of v. 24 and how it applies to us, the Church.

v. 25, Acts 26:9-11, Acts 26:12-18

v. 26-27, Genesis 17: 1-8, Ephesians 3:2-6, Colossians 1:14-22

v. 28, Ephesians 4:11-13

v. 29, John 15

v. 24 Now I **rejoice in my sufferings** for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body, which is the church, in **filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions**.

Why does Paul rejoice in suffering?, Romans 5:1-11, 1 Peter 4:13

What does it mean to fill up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions? 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

"God intends for the afflictions of Christ to be presented to the world through the affliction his people. God really means for the body of Christ, the church, to experience some of the suffering he experienced so that when we offer the Christ of the cross to people, they see the Christ of the cross in us. We are to make the afflictions of Christ real for people by the afflictions we experience in offering him to them and living the life of love he lived" -John Piper