Camp Li-Lo-Li Message 4



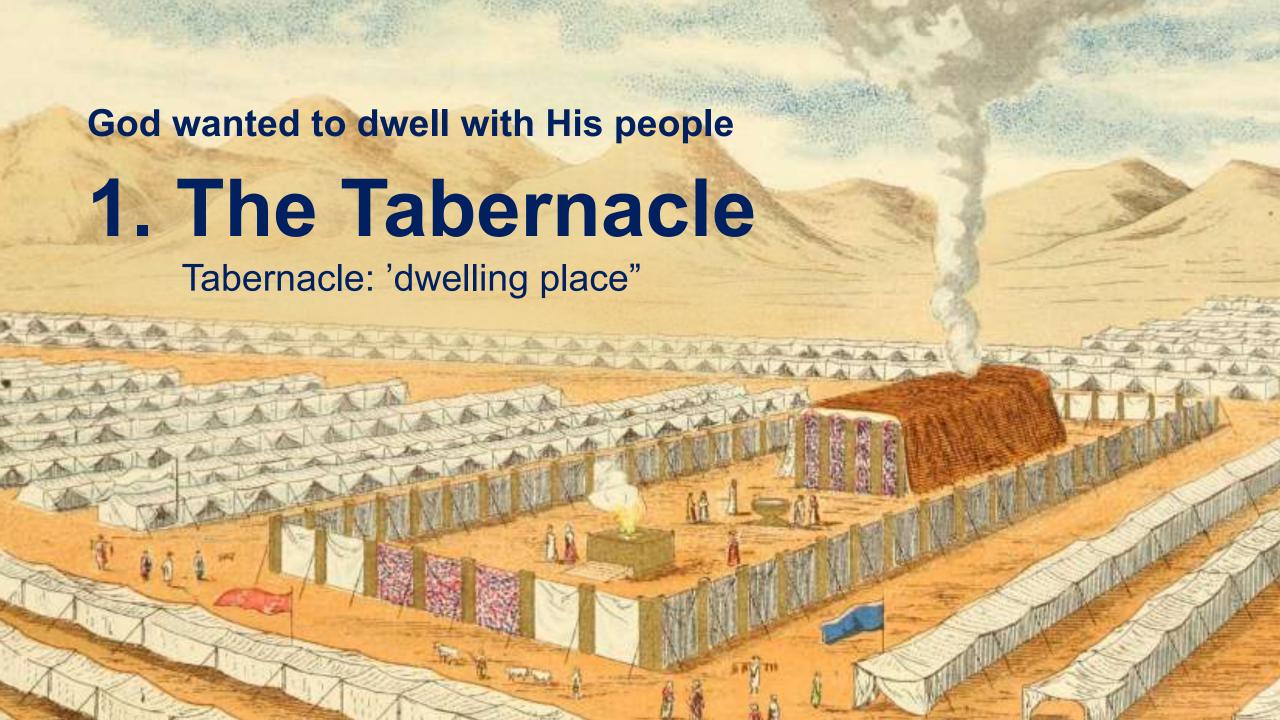


INCHRIST INCOLOSSIANS

- Col 1:21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled
- 22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—
- 23 if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.
- 24 I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,

- 25 of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God,
- 26 the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.
- 27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is **Christ in you**, the hope of glory.
- 28 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.
- 29 To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

CHRIST IN YOU HOPE OF GLORY





3. The New Testament Temple

1 Cor 3:16 - Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?



SUMMARY:

Christ is living in you, and that gives you the hope of eternal glory.

OUTLINE:

- 1. Ministry Paul received vs 23-25
- 2. Mystery God revealed vs 26-29

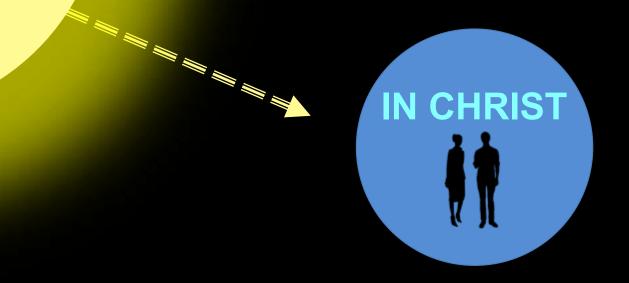
1. Ministry Paul received vs 23-25

Col 1:23 - ...the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

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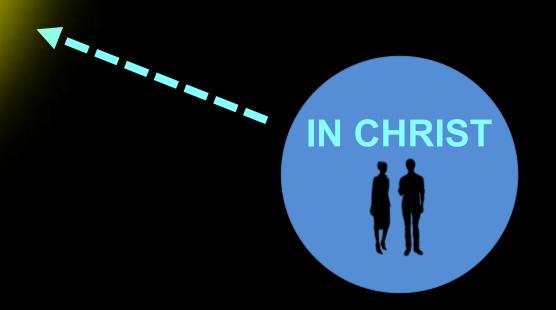
1). Paul a <u>Servant</u> of the gospel.

- Minister is a servant.
- Servant: one who works
- Submits to do the commands of another
- Paul's work was to preach the gospel



vs 22 - "In His Sight."

That is how God sees us...IN' Christ.



Vs 23 - if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the **hope** of the gospel which you heard,

Hope means certainty

Colossians 1:23

"which was preached to every creature under heaven,"

Mark 16:15 – And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.



1). Paul a servant of the gospel2). Paul a sufferer for the gospel

Col 1:24 - I now rejoice in my sufferings for you



Paul was suffering in prison in Rome.

2). Paul a sufferer for the gospel

vs 24 - I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,

What is lacking in Christ's afflictions?

Christs' suffering for sin is complete

Col 1:14 - in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Col 1:20 - having made peace through the blood of His cross.

Col 1:21 -, yet now He has reconciled 22 - in the body of His flesh through death,

Q. What do Paul's words mean?

vs 23- "fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ,

A. We suffer because we are associated with Christ. Because we are IN CHRIST

"If they hate me, they will hate you also"

Rejoice in those sufferings?

Col 1:24 - Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you,

Those sufferings allowed the gospel to reach them.

Acts 5:41 - So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.

- 1. Paul a servant of the gospel.
- 2. Paul a sufferer for the gospel.
- 3. Paul a steward to the church.

Col 1:24 - for the sake of His body, which is the church,

25 - of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God,

3. Paul a steward to the church.

God gave Paul a stewardship, a responsibility, to fulfill His Word. To share it with this world.

What was a steward?

A managing servant.

The administrator of the whole estate.

OUTLINE:

- 1. Ministry Paul received vs 23-25
- 2. Mystery God revealed vs 26-29

2. Mystery God revealed

26 - the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.

What is a mystery?

Mystery is something that was previously hidden, but is now revealed.



Colossians has 4 mysteries 1:26, 1;27, 2:21, 4:3

Ephesians has 7 mysteries.

Who are the saints?

Col 1:26 - the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.

Col 1:2 - To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colosse:

Saints are those 'in Christ'. The church.

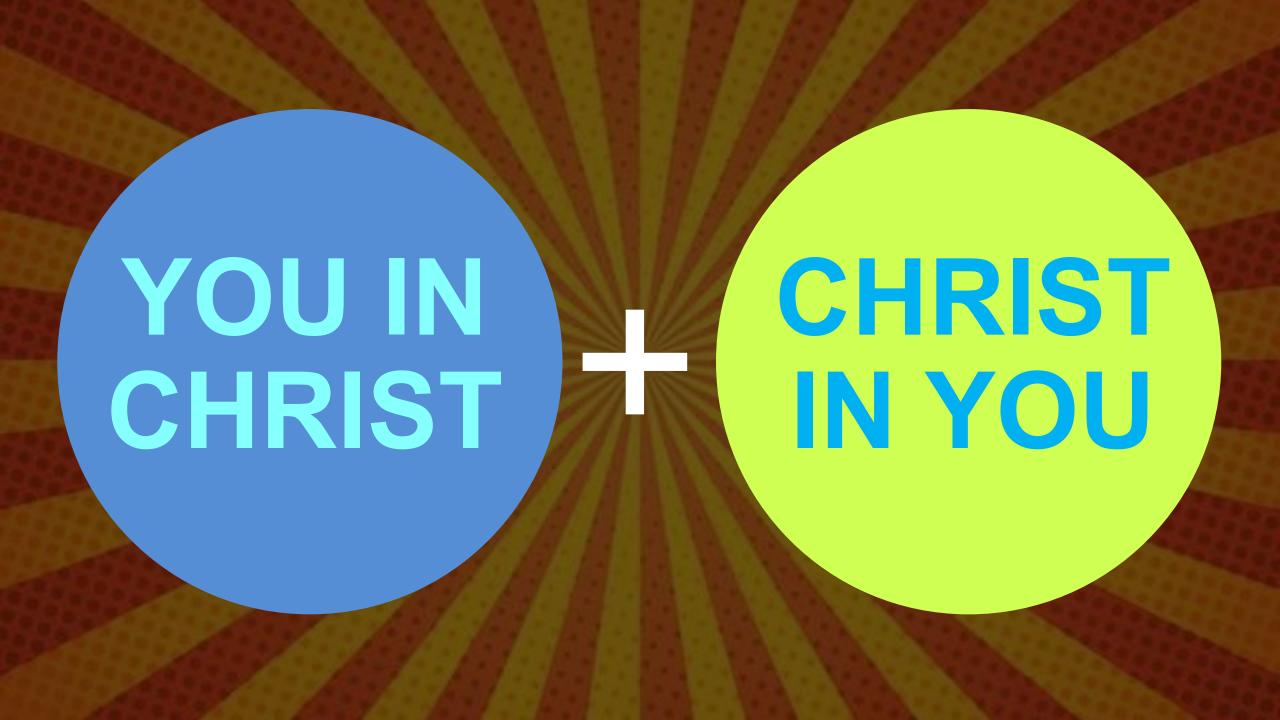
The secret is revealed.

Col 1:26 - the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.

27 -To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

The major mystery of all mysteries

CHRIST INYOU!



What is this new truth?

This new truth is that every believer in Christ is united to Christ and He lives within the life and body of each and every believer, Jew or Gentile.

One body / One with Christ

Ephesians:

We are united to each other in ONE BODY.

Colossians:

We are united to Christ. ONE WITH CHRIST.

You are united to the living Christ.

- We are united to each other.
- All believers are your brothers and sisters.
- You belong to me, I belong to you.
- We belong to Christ.

How do you deal with other Christians?

- They are your family.
- Their life is the same as your life.
- Every single believer in Christ is connected in one body.



Riches of His Glory

Col 1:27 - To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles:

"riches of the glory". This is like finding buried treasure

And what are the riches?

Christ in you, the hope of Glory





Col 1:27 - To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Not just Christ will be in you <u>one day</u> in heaven. But Christ <u>is</u> in you, right now.

Dwelling through faith:

Ephesians 3:16 - that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,

17 - that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

What is the future of Christ in you? It's the hope of glory

"Christ in you, means you in glory"

"The indwelling Christ is the believers' hope of glory. The fact that He indwells us makes heaven as sure as if we were already there."

What does glory do for me?

To be glorified means not only will I live with Him, and He with me.

It means I WILL BE LIKE HIM.

Hope now and for the future

Christ in you, the hope of glory,

I will be with him, I will be like him.

Today – know that God lives in your heart. Tomorrow – know that you will be glorified.

Why was Paul revealing this mystery?

Col 1:28 - Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

29 - To this end I also **labor**, **striving** according to **His working** which **works in me** mightily.

Working 4 times. Labor, striving, His working, works in me

A servant works.

Why was Paul revealing this mystery?

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- 1. Warning every man
- 2. Teaching every man
- 3. Presenting every man

1. Warning every man- preaching the gospel

Warning is the message for the unbeliever. That if you are not IN Christ you fall under the judgment of God for your sin.

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Warning is the message for the unbeliever. That if you are not IN Christ you fall under the judgment of God for your sin.

2. Teaching every man - teaching the believer's position in Christ

The believers need to be taught the truth of who they are in Christ.

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Warning is the message for the unbeliever. That if you are not IN Christ you fall under the judgment of God for your sin.

2. Teaching every man - teaching the believer's position in Christ

The believers need to be taught the truth of who they are in Christ.

3. Presenting every man - Perfect in Christ Jesus.

encouraging the practice of the believer "perfect"— The word mean something has reached the end

1. Warning every man

Paul had the zeal of an evangelist

2. Teaching every man

Paul had the clearness of a wise teacher.

3. Presenting every man

Paul had the encouragement of a nurturing shepherd.

Paul's message is not:

'Try to do better.'

Paul's message is:

'Christ is better'.

vs 28 - 'Him we preach'

Complete in Christ, Perfect in Christ,

Col 2:10 - and you are complete in Him,

Col 1:28 - present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

Position: Complete in Christ. Col 2:10

Practice: Perfect in Christ. Col 1:28

You position is now is complete in Christ Your practice is being made perfect in Christ.

The Goal of the ministry

Col 1:29 - To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

To present every man perfect (mature) in Christ.

This can only happen because Christ lives in you.

Our final message:

Know your position Live according to your position

How should we live now that we know we are in Christ, and Christ is in us?

"Christ in you, the hope of glory"—

I don't know of any more incredible truth in the Bible than that one."

It is a present reality, a pledge of an eternal reward and a great incentive to diligent service.

- Elizabeth Elliot



CHRIST IN YOU HOPE OF GLORY