

# Man On A Mission

## Colossians 1:24-29

### Introduction

#### I Paul's Attitude In Life

- A. He rejoiced in what was **suffered** - Matt 5:11-12
  - 1. For the Colossians - 1Cor 11:1; 2 Cor 1:5-6; Phil 1:12-14
- B. He **filled up** in his body
  - 1. What was lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions - 1 Peter 4:12-16; 2 Tim 1:8-9
    - a. For Christ's body -- the **church** - 2 Tim 2:10

#### II Paul's Motivation In Life

- A. To be a **servant** to the church - Col 1:23
  - 1. By the commission God gave him - 1 Cor 4:1-2
- B. To present the **word** of God in its fullness - Acts 20:27
  - 1. The mystery kept **hidden** for ages - Col 2:2-3
  - 2. The mystery now **disclosed** to the saints - Rom 16:25-27
- C. To make known among the Gentiles:
  - 1. The glorious **riches** of this mystery, which is: - Eph 3:8-9
    - a. Christ in you - Jn 14:23
    - b. The **hope** of glory - 1 Cor 15:52-55; Col 3:1-4

#### III Paul's Goal In Life

- A. To proclaim Christ: - 2 Cor 4:5
  - 1. **Admonishing** everyone with all wisdom
  - 2. **Teaching** everyone with all wisdom - 2 Tim 3:16-17
- B. To present everyone **perfect** in Christ - Eph 4:11-13
  - 1. To this end he labored: - 1 Cor 15:10
    - a. **Struggling** with all Christ's energy: - Col 4:12
      - 1. Which so **powerfully** worked in him - Zech 4:6

### PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. What is your "mission" in life?
2. How was Paul's suffering of benefit to the believers in Colosse? What was Paul's attitude in the midst of his suffering? How are your challenges in life benefiting those around you?
3. Paul identified himself in Colossians as "a servant of Christ Jesus", "a servant of the church" and a "servant of the gospel." What How do you generally introduce yourself to new friends?
4. What's the mystery Paul is talking about in verse 26? Why would "Christ in you" be a mystery to an Old Testament believer? How has the revelation of this mystery affected you?
5. Read Colossians 1:28-29 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17. How are these verses similar? Different? Of the four aspects of instruction in 2 Timothy 3:16, which is the easiest for you to give/receive? Hardest? What will be the outcome if you selectively choose only the easy responsibilities? [Hint: See verse 17]
6. Paul labored to the point of exhaustion in his effort to present every believer perfect (fully mature) in Christ. How is your life contributing to the spiritual development of others around you?
7. Take a few moments to thank God for the gift of His Son. And thank Jesus for His heroic sacrifice on the cross that you might have life! Finally, read Luke 9:23-25 and Romans 12:1-2 and offer your entire life to God as a true follower of Jesus Christ!

**BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE**

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