

“strives according to his [Christ’s] working.” ¹

Paul concludes the chapter with the moving thought that “the measure of our power then is Christ’s power in us. He whose presence makes the struggle necessary, by His presence strengthens us for it.” ²

God wanted all of Himself to be in His Son (Colossians 1:19. LB).

3. For Whom were all things created? (Colossians 1:16) _____

4. What things does Colossians 1:16 say were created by Jesus Christ ? _____

See also John 1:1,3; 17:5; Hebrews 1:2; 2:10.

RECONCILIATION IN CHRIST (Colossians 1:20-22)

It was through what His Son did that God cleared a path for everything to come to Him (Colossians 1:20, LB).

1. What do we receive through the blood of the cross by Jesus Christ? (Colossians 1:20)_____

2. (a) What does Paul, in Colossians 1:21 say some of the Colossians believers were before their salvation? _____

(b) But now, what? (same verse) _____

3. What is the purpose of our redemption through the death on the cross of Christ’s own human body according to Colossians 1:22?_____

1. The Pulpit Commentary, Vol. XX, Colossians p. 18,19.

2. Beacon Bible Commentary, Volume 9, p. 393

FINAL REDEMPTION IN CHRIST WITH ONE
CONDITION (Colossians 1:23; Hebrews 3:6; 12-14;
4:11; 6:11-12; I Peter 1:5; II Peter 1:5-11)

There are 522 “if’s” in Scripture.

Yet now has [Christ, the Messiah] reconciled
[you to God] in the body of His flesh through
death, in order to present you holy and faultless
and irreproachable in His [the Father’s] presence.

[And this He will do] provided that you continue to stay with *and* in the faith [in Christ], well-
grounded and settled *and* steadfast, not shifting or
moving away from the hope [which rests on and is
inspired by] the glad tidings (the Gospel), which
you heard and which has been preached [as being
designed for and offered without restrictions] to
every person under heaven, and of which [Gospel]
I, Paul, became a minister (Colossians 1:22,23, Am-
plified Bible).

THE MINISTRY OF PAUL (Colossians 1:23b-29)

Paul who shares that he became a minister of
the Gospel of Jesus Christ, is now rejoicing in the
midst of his suffering in a Roman prison on behalf
of the Colossians and all the Body of Christ. In
Paul’s own person he is trying to make up for any
lack that remains to be completed on his part of
Christ’s afflictions for the sake of Christ’s Body the
Church (Colossians 1:23b-24).

1. In the Body of Christ, Paul became a minister in
accordance with what? (Colossians 1:25) _____

2. What was the mystery which was hidden for
ages and generations, but is now revealed to
God’s holy people in Colossians 1: 27? _____

Preaching Christ, Paul proclaims a warning to
every man in all wisdom that he and his fellow la-
borers may present every man perfect (mature and
complete) in Christ (Colossians 1:28).

***Whereunto I also labour, striving according to
His working.*** Colossians 1:29. *To labour in weariness*,
often used in of manual labour, is a favourite word
of St. Paul’s. The figurative use of
“striving” (“agonizing,” i.e. “contending in the are-
na”) is only Pauline in the New Testament: it is -
connected with toil. The apostle’s bodily sufferings
(ver. 24) and his mental anxiety (ch ii. 1) alike enter
into the mighty struggle which he is maintaining
on the Church’s behalf, and which strains every fi-
ber of his nature to the utmost (comp. 2 Cor. xi. 28).
“Striving implies opponents against whom he
contends; “toiling hard,” the painful effort he has to
make. In this toil he is divinely sustained, for he