



The Preeminence of Christ

Colossians



The Truth About Christian Ministry

Col. 1:24-29

December 2nd, 2020

The Truth About Christian Ministry

Christian Ministry:

1. Involves Suffering (24)

How did Paul in his flesh fill up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions?*

1. " Christ suffered as a *propitiator* (turning away God's wrath by offering Himself as a sacrifice) for the sins of people; Paul suffered in the *presentation* of the gospel of Christ through which sinners become saints.
2. " Christ suffered as a *mediator* to reconcile man to God; Paul suffered for the *maturity* of believers in Christ.
3. " Christ suffered to *establish* the church; Paul suffered to *equip* the church.

* Preached by C. Stephen David to "Ekklesia Evangelical Fellowship", Hyderabad, India, on October 2, 2016

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Christian Ministry:

1. Involves Suffering (24)
2. Is Grounded in God's Word (25)
3. Points People to Christ (26-27)
4. Aims for Maturity (28)

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Christian Ministry:

4. Aims for Maturity (28)

1. The Person – Jesus Christ
2. The Process – Admonishing and Teaching
3. The Purpose – To present every believer complete in Christ

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Christian Ministry:

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3. Points People to Christ (26-27)
4. Aims for Maturity (28)
5. Is Done in God's Power (29)

Responding to the Text

1. Expect difficult times as a Christian (2 Tim. 3:12; John 15:18)
2. Pursue maturity in Christ.
 1. Submission (Rom. 13:1; Eph. 5:21; Tit. 3:1; Heb. 12:9; 1 Pet. 2:13, 5:5)
 2. Humility (Eph. 4:2; Phil. 2:3; Col. 3:12)
 3. Alertness (Matt. 24:42; 1 Cor. 16:13; Col. 4:2; 1 Thes. 5:6; 1 Pet. 5:8)
 4. Not Driven by Feelings (Eph. 4:14-15)
 5. Able to Resist the Devil (Jam. 4:7)
 6. Delay Gratification (Matt. 6:33, 16:24-26; Luke 14:28; Gal. 6:9)
 7. Contentment (1 Tim. 6:6)
 8. Sense of Responsibility (Gal. 6:5; 1 Tim. 5:8).
 9. Involved in Serving (Mark 10:45)

Group Discussion Questions/Thoughts

1. What were your views about Christian Ministry before coming to this passage and how has the passage contradicted/confirmed that view?
2. What are some practical steps you can take as a result of knowing some of the marks of Christian maturity?
3. Take time to pray for each other. Focus on maturity.