

Sunday, January 15, 2023

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

Title: What is My Faith, Hope and Love?

**Series: Growing in Our Walk,
a Journey Through Colossians**

Text: Colossians 1:1 - 14

Purpose: I want to PERSUADE my congregation to regularly conduct a self-examination of where their FAITH, HOPE and LOVE are deposited!

Introduction:

~ Hebrews 1:1 – 2, *"Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, (2) but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world."*

Question: Am I listening?

~ 2 Peter 3:11 – 13, *"Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, (12) waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolve, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! (13) But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells."*

~ Matthew 17:17, *"And Jesus answered, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me.""*

Review of Colossians 1:1 – 14

~ vs. 2 "saints" (G40, hagios) In the KJV this word is translated as: holy 161 times, saints 61 times, Holy One 4 times, and 3 miscellaneous words

~ notice the word "heard" in this Holy Spirit prayer – 1:4 "we heard," 1:5 "you have heard," 1:6 "you heard it," 1:9 "we heard,"

~ The Holy Spirit, through the Apostle Paul, gives thanks for the believers (saints) at Colossae:

1. Thanks for Their Faith:

~ vs. 4, *"since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints,"*

~ Hebrews 11:6, *"And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."*

~ Hebrews 11:1, *"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."*

~ Romans 10:17, *"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."*

~ Matthew 17:17 & 20, *"And Jesus answered, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me."*

Vs. 20, *"He said to them, "because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."*

~ Faith (from Thayer's Greek Lexicon): conviction of the truth of anything, **belief**; in the New Testament of a **conviction or belief respecting man's relationship to God and divine things**, generally with the included idea of trust and holy fervor born of faith and conjoined with it: Hebrews 11:1

2. Thanks for Their Hope:

~ vs. 5, *"because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel,"*

~ vs. 23, *"if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I Paul, became a minister."*

~ vs. 27, *"To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."*

It is this FACT of redemption that makes every believer a "saint."

~ Romans 15:13, *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."*

~ Hope (from Thayer's Greek Lexicon): that in which one confides or to which he flees for refuge; expectation, hope

~ We receive from God by FAITH, and through the Holy Spirit's endowment of HOPE we continue, until the word given by God becomes a reality in our experience.

3. Thanks for Their Love:

~ vs. 4, *"since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints,"*

~ 1 John 1:7, *"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin."*

~ vs. 8, *"and has made known to us your love in the Spirit."*

~ 1 Corinthians 13:13, *"So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."*

4. The Holy Spirit's Desire Expressed Through Paul: Colossians 1:9 – 14

~ vs. 9, *"be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,"*

~ vs. 10, *"to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord,"*

~ vs. 10, *"bearing fruit in every good work"*

~ vs. 10, *"increasing in the knowledge of God,"*

~ vs. 11, *"being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;"*

~ vs. 12, knowing – *"the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light."*

~ vs. 13, knowing – *"He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,"*

~ vs. 14, knowing – *"in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."*

Conclusion: So Glad I'm Yours, Lord, So Glad I'm Yours.
So Glad Your Mercy Has Followed Me.
So Glad You Found Me And Set Me Free
So Glad I'm Yours, Lord, So Glad I'm Yours.