Sunday, February 5, 2023

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

Title: Embracing the Wisdom of God Series: Growing in Our Walk, a Journey Through Colossians ... 3 Text: Colossians 2:1 - 15

Purpose: I want to MOTIVATE my congregation to hold to Sola Scriptura, "Scripture alone." The Bible alone is our highest authority, and the Word of the Bible is the Lord Iesus Christ.

Introduction:

Review of Colossians 1:15 - 29, Give Jesus the Preeminence:

- ~ 1. Reasons I Should Give Jesus the Preeminence
- ~ 2. Reasons I Should Give Preeminence to Christ Beyond All Our Comprehension
- ~ Read Colossians 2:1 15

1. Earnest Prayer of the Holy Spirit Through Paul:

- ~ vs. 1, "For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face."
- ~ earnest: resulting from or showing sincere and intense conviction

Characterized by or proceeding from an intense and serious state of mind: grave, important

~ vs. 2, "that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ,"

Compare Oswald Chambers January 31

~ vs. 3, "in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Notice that wisdom and knowledge are not an intellectual process but a relational process, it is my relationship to the Lord Jesus Christ in whom are "all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

- ~ 1 Cor. 1:30 31, "And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."
- ~ vs. 4, "I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments."

Plausible – persuasive arguments, especially ones intended to deceive; seeming reasonable or probable

- 2. Elude the 'Wisdom' that is NOT from Above:
 - ~ Elude: evade or escape from (a danger, enemy, or pursuer)
 - \sim James 3:14 18 in particular verse 15, "This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic."
 - ~ earthly, G1919, existing upon the earth, earthly, terrestrial, worldly (physically or morally)

 Might one say 'that which is politically correct'?
 - ~ unspiritual (natural), G559, of or belonging to breath 1 Corinthians 2:14, "The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned."
 - ~ demonic, G1141, resembling or proceeding from an evil spirit, demon-like
 - ~ 2 Timothy 2:15, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." ESV
 - ~ 2 Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." KJV

3. Embrace Christ Jesus the Lord:

~ Colossians 2:6 & 7, "therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."

Notice the warning in Colossians 2:8, "See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ."

- ~ Rejoice with confidence in the Lord, Colossians 2:9 10, "For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority."
- ~ Colossians 1:27, "To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

Conclusion:

Communion