



CHRIST THE KING
ALL THINGS HOLD TOGETHER IN HIM



From “In Adam” to “In Christ”

Colossians 1.1-2

Main Idea

An Immoveable Word of Grace that moves towards sinners that results in Saints who have Peace w/ God

Overview

I. Gods Word is the Unmoved mover

- Colossians 1.1: Paul is communicating that his words are not merely an opinion, but they come from an apostle who was appointed by God himself
- Gods word is the one thing that doesn't move though philosophies are constantly shifting
- We can trust Gods word to root us in order that we might be stable in a world of shifting winds
- The Colossians had a word to trust in a world that was full of others pressing in
 - This word is the word of God that moves us towards faithfulness in Gods world

II. Gods Word turns sinners into saints

- The text does not indicate that it is only addressed to one or two “special” individuals that have met some test, but instead it is clearly addressed to the whole people of the local church
- Paul understands the members of the church in Colossae to be “saints” or “Holy Ones” as well as “Faithful brethren”
 - That does not mean that they were perfect, they merely trusted one that was perfect for them
 - It was on this basis that they were deemed “saints”
- Union with Christ (In Christ) means that those who have repented and believed in the work of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection substitutionary act for their sin have then been united to all of his work
 - Now His life, death, resurrection, and glorification becomes deposited into the account of the believer
 - This is exactly what Jesus prayed for in John 17

III. God gives grace in order to make peace

- Paul does not offer these words in a perfunctory manner...these words have weight
- Grace is undeserved favor that is offered to the sinner in order to make peace with God
- Paul is praying for more and more to come upon the initial saving act of grace that lead to peace
- Paul recognizes this is what we all need...grace that leads to peace with God
 - No work, but Christ's can accomplish this

Questions

Discussion Starter: Share any Philosophies that you hear about on TV or read about in the papers. What are they trying to get you to “buy?”

1. Read Colossians 2:4, 8, 20-23. What does these verses tell us about the ‘climate’ of the city of Colossae? How is this similar to the ‘climate’ of our city?

2. Read Colossians 1:1-2. What is the significance of Paul starting his letter by saying “by the will of God”? Why are Paul’s writings authoritative (cf. 2 Pt. 3:15-17; 2 Tim. 3:16)?
3. How do the Scriptures serve as an “unmoved mover” in the world in which we live? (cf. 1:23; 2:7; Eph 4.11-16) Why is it important to have such a foundation?
4. What does it mean to be “In Christ”? Before we are “in Christ” we are “in Adam,” what does that mean? How does one go from “In Adam” to “In Christ.” Discuss the “union” we have with Christ. Read Colossians 1:2. Why would Paul call for “grace and peace” to be given to the Colossians?
5. Why does everyone long for grace and peace? Do they? Why or why not?

Accountability Question: What Philosophies are calling you into the center and pushing Christ out of the center?