



Colossians

Bible Study Notes

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Lesson 8

Teacher: Beth Seifert

“Fulfilled in Christ”

Colossians 2:6-15

Ephesians 2

1. Read Romans 1:16-17. What is Paul not ashamed of? Why? What is revealed in it? What about you? Can you say, with Paul, you are not ashamed of it? What “signs” could we look to in order to determine that?
2. Read Acts 5:40-41. What happened to the apostles? What was the response of the apostles? What did the apostles continue to do? What does that demonstrate about their priorities?
3. Read Romans 8:12-17. What happens if we live to the flesh? What, by the Spirit, are we to be doing? What benefits do we have by receiving the Holy Spirit? What must we remember must come, if we are to be glorified with Christ?
4. Read 1 John 1:8-10. Is it possible for us to never sin? What does John say we are actually doing (in verse 10) if we claim we have not sinned? How can we be cleansed from our sin? Think about this one for a minute. If we say we have no sin? Then there was no reason for Jesus to die. If we could be cleansed of our sin ourselves? And if we could live perfect lives on our own? There was no reason for Christ to have to sacrifice Himself. Thus, if we say we have not sinned, we are saying that God is a liar, and also that He is unjust in punishing Jesus for something we could have accomplished.
5. Read 2 Corinthians 4:13-18. What assurance do believers have? As grace extends to more and more people, what does God receive? Why, as we age and face trials and temptations and even ill health, should we not lose heart? How does Paul refer to his affliction? What things do we look for?
6. Read 2 Corinthians 11:21-30. Paul is speaking satirically as he “boasts” here. He is pointing out the foolishness of boasting in anything we can do or have done. As he does so, he lists we see Paul “mock boasting” and as he does so, he describes his suffering that he *could* boast in. What does Paul conclude by saying that he *will* boast in? Why will he boast in his weakness? (2 Corinthians 12:9-10) Now, keeping this list of suffering in mind, look back at

- how Paul refers to all the affliction he has faced in chapter 4. What does that tell you about Paul's perspective? What was the most important thing to Paul? What was not important to Paul?
7. Read John 1:1-5. How long has Jesus existed? What did He do with God? What is in Him? What does that tell you about where you will find the answers for all the questions in life?
 8. Read Hebrews 12:1-2. Jesus is what in regards to our faith? What does that mean for us?
 9. Read Romans 3:21-30. How do we know what God sees as righteous? This righteousness is manifested in who? Are any human beings guiltless? What does it mean to be "just"? Who is just, in verse 26? What does it mean to "justify"? Who, in verse 26, justifies? Knowing this, what do we have left to boast in ourselves in? Why?

As you spend time in prayer today, consider all that Christ has truly done for you. Not only is He the one to give you faith and perfect it, but He is also the one to die in your place because you could not pay the debt you owed. Thank God for His mercy in and His goodness in finding a way to both satisfy His justice (we don't want a God who isn't just, ladies) and to provide what we couldn't provide.

Our sin had to be paid for; and He paid it. Knowing that, ask Him to help you to look to Him for all that you need. Ask Him to help you to see your trials as "light momentary afflictions" in light of the reality we have of eternity with God. Ask Him to give you the same boldness the apostles had, to share the Gospel without shame or apology, knowing what you owe to Him, and being grateful and humbled by what He provided.