

## OUTLINE

# The Power of The Gospel: Colossians 1:12-14

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### Colossians 1:12-14 ESV

giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. <sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.



### Introduction

- have you noticed that people have not been themselves lately and have been, well, a little grumpy?  
- I guess I am not the only one because I found an article this week, published by Forbes, entitled “Is It Just Me, Or Is Everyone Grumpy?”

- the author writes:

*“An email with a snippy tone. A phone call that felt punitive or terse. Slack channels where people bite back. Meetings with more complaints than constructive conversation. An exasperated eye roll from your partner. Attitude from your kids.*

*Does that sound like your week too?*

*The pandemic is making us grumpy. Irritability seems to be infectious; we’ve all contracted it, and almost no one is asymptomatic.*

*The coronavirus has disrupted our daily lives in previously unimaginable ways. Covid-19 is keeping many of us at home, isolated from friends and family, without a steady diet of social activities, sporting events, or vacation and travel to distract us. As one senior leader recently told us, “all my guilty pleasures are gone, and I’m left just wondering what I do with myself.” Disruption and isolation can spark feelings of meaninglessness and existential despair.”*

- so that is what is wrong with everyone, they are feeling “meaninglessness” and “existential despair”
- certainly there has to be more to life than social activities, sporting events, vacations and travel?
- why yes there is!
- there is ultimate joy, ultimate satisfaction and fullness of life found in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ
- this passage teaches us 5 amazing truths that bring us joy and great thankfulness!

- Paul and Timothy wrote this book to \_\_\_\_\_ people in the Lord Jesus
- some people in Colossae were \_\_\_\_\_ that in order to be a Christian or to have fullness of life, you needed to obey all sorts of Jewish \_\_\_\_\_ and practices
- but Paul responds to these issues by declaring to them the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord Jesus Christ and His grace

- this passage teaches the plain and simple \_\_\_\_\_ and the benefits of being united with Jesus Christ

- you can see many posts on social media that say; if you type \_\_\_\_\_ under the post, all this money, health and prosperity will come to you
- that is absolute hog wash, God is not a genie in a \_\_\_\_\_
- we have eternal \_\_\_\_\_ and prosperity offered to us in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ by means of His work upon the \_\_\_\_\_!
- let us respond with thankfulness and \_\_\_\_\_!

- Colossians 1:12-14 is very similar to an important section in the book of \_\_\_\_\_ (26:16-18)
- this is the section of scripture where Paul tells Agrippa of his conversion experience and his call to ministry

**Acts 26:16-18** But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, <sup>17</sup> delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles-- to whom I am sending you <sup>18</sup> to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to \_\_\_\_\_ and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by \_\_\_\_\_ in me.'

- Colossians 1:12-14 is also similar to numerous passages in the \_\_\_\_\_ Testament one example is Exodus 6:6-8

**Exodus 6:6-8** Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will \_\_\_\_\_ you from slavery to them, and I will \_\_\_\_\_ you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. <sup>7</sup> I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. <sup>8</sup> I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. I will give it to you for a possession. I am the LORD.'"

- the deliverance of the Lord, darkness to \_\_\_\_\_, forgiveness and the benefits of knowing the Lord are found in all three of these passages Colossians 1:12-14, Acts 26:16-18 and Exodus 6:6-8

- these truths about the Lord's deliverance, new \_\_\_\_\_, and forgiveness of sin are found throughout our \_\_\_\_\_ from start to finish!

- Colossians 1:12-14 gives us \_\_\_\_\_ reasons to be thankful and joyful!

**Outline:**

- 1) 1:12 Real Inheritance**
- 2) 1:13 Rescued**
- 3) 1:13 Relocated**
- 4) 1:14 Redemption**
- 5) 1:14 Removed Sin**

**1) 1:12 Real Inheritance**

**giving thanks to the Father,**

- \_\_\_\_\_, again, is giving thanks to God

- recall that in Colossians 1:3 Paul \_\_\_\_\_ God for the grace given to the Colossian believers
- now Paul thanks God for the work of \_\_\_\_\_ among these believers
- you can see this section of Colossians 1:12-14 as an expansion of Paul's thankfulness in Colossians 1:3

- thankfulness is a heartfelt \_\_\_\_\_ to God for His mercy and favor in your life
- this means that you are truly \_\_\_\_\_ and appreciative of the work of the Lord in your life and His \_\_\_\_\_ of grace to you

- in a world that is filled with complaining, let us focus upon these 5 reasons to be truly \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- in a world that is filled with embittered people and ungrateful attitudes, let us overflow with appreciation for what the \_\_\_\_\_ has done for us

- this thankfulness of Paul does not end here, he continues to be \_\_\_\_\_ and teach thankfulness throughout the rest of the book
- since the Colossians have received Jesus Christ as Lord Paul calls them to abound in thankfulness  
**Colossians 2:6-7** Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him and established in the \_\_\_\_\_, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

- the Colossian church is commanded to \_\_\_\_\_ with thankfulness in their hearts  
**Colossians 3:16** Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

- Paul commands them to do everything for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord and to overflow with thankfulness  
**Colossians 3:17** And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving \_\_\_\_\_ to God the Father through him.

- in chapter 4 they are commanded to \_\_\_\_\_ in prayer and thankfulness  
**Colossians 4:2** Continue steadfastly in \_\_\_\_\_, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

- often when we think of "thankfulness" we think of Philippians or 1 & 2 Thessalonians but we also need to think about Paul's wonderful teaching of thankfulness in \_\_\_\_\_ as well!

### who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

- here we see the pure \_\_\_\_\_ of God
- do you see who \_\_\_\_\_ us for this inheritance?
- "the \_\_\_\_\_" is the one who qualifies us for this inheritance
- we cannot \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves qualified for this inheritance because our sins have put us at odds with God
- we do not \_\_\_\_\_ this inheritance nor have we done anything to achieve this inheritance
- finally, there is nothing we could ever do on our own to \_\_\_\_\_ this inheritance
- this needs to be said again, if you are in Christ you \_\_\_\_\_ this wonderful inheritance but it rests on the grace and \_\_\_\_\_ of the Father alone!

- \_\_\_\_\_ is this inheritance that Paul is speaking about?
  - this inheritance has a twofold aspect to it!
  - it has a present reality and a future reality
  - in the \_\_\_\_\_, if the Father has qualified you, you now \_\_\_\_\_ to the family of God
  - you are a part of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God along with the other saints who have experienced the grace of God through Jesus Christ
  - but there is also a \_\_\_\_\_ reality to this inheritance because Paul is referencing the \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven
  - Paul has already talked about the \_\_\_\_\_ stored up for them in heaven (Colossians 1:5)
  - this inheritance is a place of \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ is the opposite of darkness which symbolizes \_\_\_\_\_ and punishment
  - when you look at the description of heaven in many passages in the New Testament you see that \_\_\_\_\_ is described as light
  - for instance we see this in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Revelation!
- Revelation 22:5** And night will be no more. They will need no \_\_\_\_\_ of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

- so we can be thankful to God because He has \_\_\_\_\_ us to share in the inheritance in the light
- through Christ we \_\_\_\_\_ to the family of God and we have the eternal hope of being with the Lord forever in heaven

## 2) 1:13 Rescued

### He has delivered us from the domain of darkness

- do you see the contrast between Colossians 1:12 and 1:13?
  - we have “the inheritance in \_\_\_\_\_” in contrast to “the domain of \_\_\_\_\_ness”
  - I love this imagery that we see in this passage and it really helps us understand the \_\_\_\_\_ of salvation that is found in the Lord Jesus Christ
  - humanity apart from the grace of God \_\_\_\_\_ in the domain of darkness
  - this domain of \_\_\_\_\_ness exposes that we as humans are in \_\_\_\_\_ to sin
  - furthermore, this domain of darkness means that humans are \_\_\_\_\_ the judgment of God for their sin
  - Paul describes the terrible effects of sin by using the imagery of a \_\_\_\_\_ or imprisonment
- Galatians 3:22-23** But the Scripture imprisoned everything under \_\_\_\_\_, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. <sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.
- I know that many people do not like to think about punishment and God’s judgement because of their \_\_\_\_\_ but this is taught so much in the \_\_\_\_\_ we cannot ignore it
  - humans because of their sin are under the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and deserve divine \_\_\_\_\_
  - so we are alienated from God, under God’s punishment for sin and we are in bondage or \_\_\_\_\_ to sin
  - this is how darkness is described in the \_\_\_\_\_

- but do you see the great \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ here?
- believers in Christ are \_\_\_\_\_ from this domain of darkness
- let me illustrate how God “\_\_\_\_\_ us” by using an example from Star Trek
- one of the main devices of defense in Star Trek is their teleportation machine
- this teleportation machine can \_\_\_\_\_ a person from place to place!
- I watched a clip of Captain Kirk flying in a ship that was traveling directly into a glowing rock that was going to destroy the \_\_\_\_\_
- just before the ship was destroyed by this rock, he was “beamed up”, or removed from the place of \_\_\_\_\_, into a safe place by the teleportation machine
- do you see how this Star Trek illustration helps us?
- we are headed towards disaster and judgment but we are \_\_\_\_\_ from the domain of darkness
- we escape the disaster only because of the person and \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord Jesus Christ
- we, the believers, are \_\_\_\_\_ from the punishment of even though we, rightfully, deserve punishment because of our rebellion against a Holy God
- we are also delivered from sin’s \_\_\_\_\_, this means that we have the Holy Spirit and have the ability to \_\_\_\_\_ from sin by God’s grace

### 3) 1:13 Relocated

**and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,**

- here we see more of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the work of the Lord Jesus Christ
  - God the Father does not only just deliver us but He \_\_\_\_\_ us
  - we are \_\_\_\_\_ from the “domain of darkness” to the kingdom of Jesus Christ or the kingdom of God
  - the kingdom of God is a major theme in the gospels of Matthew, \_\_\_\_\_ and Luke
  - Paul also speaks often of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God!
  - this kingdom of Jesus refers to \_\_\_\_\_ those belonging to God -- you are His and He is your King
  - being part of this kingdom allows for the believer to have \_\_\_\_\_ stored for them in heaven
  - Paul speaks about this present and \_\_\_\_\_ kingdom of God many times in his letters
  - Paul says that the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking but peace and joy in the Holy Spirit
  - this is a \_\_\_\_\_ reality of the kingdom of God on earth
- Romans 14:17** For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

- Paul also speaks of this \_\_\_\_\_ kingdom of God in heaven in 1 Corinthians
  - those who reject the grace of God and live in wickedness will not inherit the kingdom of God, meaning that they will not experience the \_\_\_\_\_ life found in the Lord Jesus Christ
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-10** Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not \_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,<sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

- not only does the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ us from the domain of darkness but we are also \_\_\_\_\_ to kingdom of Jesus Christ with joy in this life and \_\_\_\_\_ in the life to come

#### 4) 1:14 Redemption

**in whom we have redemption,**

- the "whom" here refers to "His beloved \_\_\_\_\_" who is of course the Lord Jesus Christ

- in \_\_\_\_\_ we have redemption

- this "in Christ" theme is very \_\_\_\_\_ and there is much to explore with that phrase in the \_\_\_\_\_ Testament

- but to make things simple, to be in Christ means that you are \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ by the grace of God and by faith

- you cannot put yourself \_\_\_\_\_ Christ only God can do such a work!

- if you are a Christian here today then you \_\_\_\_\_ redemption

- redemption is another "million dollar word" because being redeemed yields \_\_\_\_\_ eternal treasures

- "redemption" is the act of being \_\_\_\_\_ from slavery

- we have the idea of a \_\_\_\_\_ who is not free and is under the authority of their master

- but someone, out of love, pays for the \_\_\_\_\_ of that person to go and be unrestricted by anyone else's authority

- Jesus talked about this same \_\_\_\_\_ that he would accomplish in Matthew 20:28 and Mark 10:45

**Mark 10:45** For even the Son of Man \_\_\_\_\_ not to be served but to serve, and to \_\_\_\_\_ his life as a ransom for many."

- Jesus gave His life to \_\_\_\_\_ for the freedom of sinful humanity

- humans are in \_\_\_\_\_, or in custody of sin, because we have all sinned

- but Jesus in love \_\_\_\_\_ the ransom price for sinful humans by taking the punishment of sin on the \_\_\_\_\_

- there is redemption, or \_\_\_\_\_, in Christ!

#### 5) 1:14 Removed Sin

**in whom we have the forgiveness of sins.**

- the blessings in Christ keep flowing and it is \_\_\_\_\_!

- in Christ there is removal, forgiveness and \_\_\_\_\_ of sin

- Paul talks about this \_\_\_\_\_ later on in Colossians

**Colossians 2:13-14** And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made \_\_\_\_\_ together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup> by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

- every human has a record of \_\_\_\_\_, meaning they have a record of sins they have committed

- the question is has your record been cancelled or does it still \_\_\_\_\_?

- we all have an IOU with the Lord, we need someone to \_\_\_\_\_ us out of debt and only Jesus can make acceptable payment

- Isaiah \_\_\_\_\_ us out with this one too!

**Isaiah 1:18** "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as \_\_\_\_\_ as snow; though they are \_\_\_\_\_ like crimson, they shall become like wool.

- Because God has accepted Christ's payment on our \_\_\_\_\_ in order to cover the \_\_\_\_\_ of our sins we can be made holy in God's \_\_\_\_\_ (be made white).

- are sins have left a crimson \_\_\_\_\_ and it is obvious!

- but He has washed it \_\_\_\_\_ as snow! Praise the Lord!

- have you ever gotten a major \_\_\_\_\_ on an outfit and you think "this will never be clean"

- but then you pull out the tide and put your item in the wash and boom it is like new?

- that is like the \_\_\_\_\_ Christ and His work!

## Application

### 1) Cry Out In Thankfulness!

- I fully recognize that it has been hard for many people these days

- in fact a several times in the last few weeks I needed someone to \_\_\_\_\_ me of the wonderful grace of Christ

- believer, if you have received Jesus Christ these \_\_\_\_\_ truths are a \_\_\_\_\_ for you

i. God has \_\_\_\_\_ you to share in His wonderful inheritance

ii. God has \_\_\_\_\_ you from the domain of darkness

iii. God has \_\_\_\_\_ you to the kingdom of Jesus, His beloved Son

iv. God has \_\_\_\_\_ you redemption through Jesus Christ

v. God has \_\_\_\_\_ all your sin

- let us \_\_\_\_\_ with thankful hearts and with joy for the work of Christ

- let these \_\_\_\_\_ be at the foundation of your life, your marriage, your \_\_\_\_\_, your work ethic and your parenting

- store these truths in your \_\_\_\_\_!

### 2) Cry Out In Faith!

- this passage speaks to those who do not know the Lord Jesus Christ and have thus far \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord and His grace!

- Captain Kirk could not beam himself out of his situation of despair, he cried out to the crew members "beam me up" or in essence "save me"

- Captain Kirk could not get out of his \_\_\_\_\_ alone, he needed help

- same with us, we cannot beam ourselves up, we cannot \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves out of the domain of darkness

- this is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ

- we have to acknowledge that we need deliverance and \_\_\_\_\_ out to God for deliverance

- this \_\_\_\_\_ out is an act of authentic faith

- just like the author of Psalm 119 \_\_\_\_\_ out

**Psalm 119:94** I am yours; save me, for I have sought your precepts.

- if you are living outside Jesus Christ and His grace \_\_\_\_\_ out to Jesus now!

- cry out in \_\_\_\_\_ “save me from my sin”!

- there was something else I noticed when I watched Star Trek clips of people being “beamed \_\_\_\_\_”

- sometimes, this teleportation device would \_\_\_\_\_ work and they would get stuck in a mess and not be delivered

- it seemed to not be a reliable device

- this is NOT like the Lord Jesus Christ, He is \_\_\_\_\_ and merciful!

- Jesus Christ is mighty to \_\_\_\_\_, so trust Him now and you will experience eternal joy!

### 3) Christians, Live As \_\_\_\_\_ People

- in the last year I saw something that disturbed me

- I observed a Christian’s Netflix history and a non-Christians’ Netflix history

- can you guess which one was \_\_\_\_\_ Christian?

- I could not believe it, I could pretty much watch all the shows that the non-Christian had been watching and could watch about half of the shows that the Christian was watching

- when a non-Christian is watching more pure movies than you, then you really have to ask if you behaving like someone who belongs the kingdom of Christ and been delivered from the dominion of \_\_\_\_\_

- there was, and only will be, one \_\_\_\_\_ and holy person who never has sinned and that is Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_

- but \_\_\_\_\_ Christ has redeemed us, forgiven our sin, delivered us and \_\_\_\_\_ us we ought to \_\_\_\_\_ holy lives

- we see this talked about in Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1-4 – let us be a people who \_\_\_\_\_ on the hope of heaven and not the things of the earth which are sin

Colossians 3:5-11 – let us put to \_\_\_\_\_ the earthly passions like lust, anger, wrath, slander and obscene \_\_\_\_\_

Colossians 3:12-17 – because we are \_\_\_\_\_, loved and holy let us \_\_\_\_\_ on the godliness and holiness that the Lord has called us to!

In conclusion:

- i. let us live like we have a \_\_\_\_\_ inheritance which is the hope of heaven
- ii. let us live a holy life because the Lord has \_\_\_\_\_ us from the domain of sin
- iii. let us pursue righteous living because the Lord has \_\_\_\_\_ us to His Kingdom
- iv. let us put to death sin because the Lord has \_\_\_\_\_ us from sin
- v. let us put on godliness because we have had our sins \_\_\_\_\_

NEXT SUNDAY...  
COLOSSIANS 1:15-20