



WEEK 7 | *COLOSSIANS 1:21-2:10*

GOSPEL SATISFACTION

Over the years, Christians have wanted to add all kinds of extras to the gospel. Somehow, the message that the one who died for sin is King doesn't seem quite enough. What about more 'spiritual experiences'? What about more prosperity? Why won't Jesus heal me now, as he did with the people we read about in the bible? Why can't I get a special 'word from God'? For Paul, the gospel of Jesus is the start and end of Christian maturity. We don't grow to anywhere else - just *deeper* in Jesus.

THE PROBLEM THE GOSPEL ADDRESSES

Read Colossians 1:21-29

1. According to Colossians 1:21-23, what's the one key thing to do if you want to be presented holy and free from accusation to God on the last day?
2. From these verses, what is 'the gospel' that they heard from the beginning?
3. What is Paul's commission (1:25), the essence of his message, and his goal (1:28-29).

THE SOLUTION THE GOSPEL OFFERS

There may seem to be a tension here. But to Paul, it's one and the same thing. Preaching "The word of God in all it's fullness" = "Preaching Christ"

This is a big idea, and some find it confusing. In Paul's mind, all the scriptures - every word of God finds its fulfilment - it's 'fullness' - in his preaching about Jesus. As he says in 2 Corinthians 1, "For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ." In a nutshell, it's 'all about Jesus.'

Read Colossians 2:1-10

4. How does Colossians 2v2-3 confirm the idea that it's 'all about Jesus'?
5. What does Paul warn about in 2:4, 8?
6. What's his remedy in 2:5-7?

7. What's the guarantee in 2:9-10?

THE DIFFERENCE THE GOSPEL MAKES

8. What temptations do you face (or offers do you hear) that lead you away from simply continuing with your faith in Jesus?
9. Why do we find it hard to believe that “in Christ we have been brought to fullness” (2:10)?

What kind of ‘fullness’ do we seem to yearn for instead?

10. How can you grow in your satisfaction at the ‘fullness’ you have in knowing and trusting Christ?

The one who died for sins is King. And the really good news is Jesus is enough! In the language of the 16th century reformers, “he is sufficient.” He’s the full representation of the Father, and his sacrificial death is fully effective. We don’t need anything more - no more sacrifice, no more wisdom, no more knowledge, no more philosophy, no new movement of the Spirit, no new experience or vision. When Jesus said on the cross “It is finished,” he really meant it. Enough!

Pray together and give thanks for the sufficiency we have in trusting Jesus. Pray that together we would keep going in the same direction!