

The Colossian's Reasons For Thanksgiving

Colossians 1:12-14

Intro:

- A. Paul prayed for the Colossians.
 - 1. He had a desire for them.
 - 2. Paul loved these people.
 - 3. Prayer = request & thanksgiving.

- B. His prayer was for their spiritual good.
 - 1. That they might be filled. Vs. 9
 - 2. That they might walk worthy. Vs. 10a
 - 3. That they might be fruitful.
 - 4. That they might increase. Vs. 10b
A fruit tree bears fruit and increases in size.
 - 5. That they might be Strengthened. Vs. 11

- C. Paul desired that they would give thanks.
 - 1. They should give thanks to God.
 - 2. He then gives them some reasons.

I. God Had Made Them What They Were.

- A. Vs. 12 "...which hath made us meet..."
 - 1. God had done it!
 - 2. "Meet" = ἰκανοῶ = "to qualify".

- B. "...to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light."
 - 1. "Partakers" = μέρος = "a portion".
 - 2. "Inheritance" = κληρὸς = "lot".
 - 3. "Light" = φῶς = "light".

II. God Has Delivered Them.

- A. Vs. 13 "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness."
 - 1. "Delivered" = ῥυομαι = "to rescue".
 - 2. "Power" = ἐξουσία = "authority", "freedom to do anything without hindrance".
 - 3. "Darkness" = σκοτὸς = "darkness", "no light".
 - 4. God had rescued them from their past affinity with that which is opposite of light.

- B. God has rescued us.
 1. We were in the dark prison of sin.
 2. God came in Christ and set us free from the power of Satan.

III. God Had Translated Them.

- A. Vs. 13b "...and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear son."
 1. "Translated" = μεθιστημι = "to remove from one place to another". To remove a group of people from one place to form a colony in another.
 2. They were in the prison of darkness. The Lord removed them and they became a colony in the Lord's kingdom of light.
- B. This is what happens today!
 1. We are Rescued. (from sin)
 2. We are Removed. (from it's power)
 3. We are Installed. (in His Kingdom)

IV. He Had Redeemed Them.

- A. Vs. 14 "In whom we have redemption..."
 1. "Redemption" = απολυτρωσις = "complete and total release based upon all of the demands being met", "to buy back".
 2. This is, "...through His blood."
 3. This is what Peter wrote. 1 Peter 1:18-21
- B. The song we will sing.
 1. This is the song I want to sing.
 2. It is the song I will sing.
 3. Rev. 5:9-10

V. He Had Forgiven Their Sins.

- A. "...the forgiveness of sins."
 1. "Forgiveness" = αφεισις = "discharge", "setting free", "Remission of a debt".
 2. "Sins" = αμαρτια = "Miss", "failure", "failure to live up to prescribed law or duty". This is not just one time in life when we may have, "done something bad". It is the minute by minute, hour by hour, day by day, month by month, year by year,

accumulation of a debt and load of sins.

B. The Parables of Jesus.

1. Luke 7:41-41 - "forgave him the debt..."
2. Matt. 18:23-35 - "he frankly forgave them both."

VI. The Truths We Must Accept.

A. What we are without Christ.

1. We are not "meet".
2. We are not "rescued".
3. We are not "translated".
4. We are not "redeemed".
5. We are not "forgiven".

B. That which we must do.

1. God will NOT meet us halfway.
2. We must Repent.
3. We must Receive God's son.

