



Series: Life With Jesus

Sermon Title: Out of the Kingdom of Darkness

Date: 9/3/2023

Colossians 1:1-14

To give you some context for this series, this letter, though similar to Paul's letter to the Ephesians, is written to a very specific group of people – believers in Jesus living in the city of Colossae. 480 years before Christ, Colossae was already a great city of the region; one military leader stated it was “situated on a spot where the river Lycus plunges into a chasm and disappears. The Colossians were in the middle of nowhere. From all we see in the Bible, it is a city Paul did not visit.

So as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; Colossians 1:10

Live to make Jesus smile.

- For the following Reasons

You have been changed.

Colossians 1:3-8

Paul directs all of his Thanks to God because people have been changed. Paul points us to the ever-increasing character of people becoming more charitable and forgiving with one another - because of the hope they have in heaven.

Our hope is in the Grace of God – That's His generosity and forgiveness to you and me through Jesus. When generosity and forgiveness flow freely between one another, in a church like ours – the news spreads quickly.

“These people are REAL about their faith in Jesus.”

You can desire more.

Colossians 1:9-11

Paul just finished saying how famous the Colossians were in the region due to the change they went through with Jesus. Now Paul is praying for even more: to know God's will, to live, to please God in all parts of life, and to share life in Jesus' salvation with everyone we know. **Colossians 1:10**

It truly is okay to ask for more of God to be shown to you! You can say: I want to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord! Maybe you can't speak like an evangelist, but you can live like one. You can do this, but only through Jesus! If you have not made life in Jesus your goal yet, what are you waiting for? ,

Be concerned for nonbelievers, and live like Jesus, the friend of sinners. Do you want the next time your non-believing friends see Jesus to be when he returns in judgment or to see Jesus in you?

[You have a kingdom to share.](#)

Colossians 1:12-14

Paul only gives thanks to God for doing the work. The only reason we can consider life in Jesus is because God has "qualified you". He makes you able. He grants you the same inheritance offered to every believer – life because of JESUS' death.

The Kingdom being shared is not one you have to go looking for. The passage tells us GOD delivers us from DARKNESS and transfers us to Jesus' Kingdom.

The word transfers in the Greek is the same word used when a Ruler takes a group of people and commands them to colonize another place for the Kingdom. YOU have been Transferred to a new kingdom. Leave the old one behind.

Will you make your home an outpost for Jesus' Kingdom?

- Can you invite others into your home & demonstrate hospitality?
- Are you willing to remove what needs to be removed from your home or lifestyle that would dishonor Jesus?
- Does your lifestyle make Jesus smile?
- Do you need encouragement in making these changes?

Without faith in Jesus, people are going to Hell for all eternity.

BUT!! - You have been changed, You can desire more, You have a kingdom to share

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Why is it beneficial to know that the Colossians faced the same life situations that we do?**
- **What would you say to a Christian who has trouble forgiving others?**
- **Have you ever asked God to reveal more of Himself to you? What was the outcome?**
- **Is your method of sharing Jesus with others more words-based or actions-based? Explain**
- **Describe how your life has changed since following Jesus.**