SCC Message by Dan Wilvers June 22nd, 2008



"Apostle Paul's Heart Check-up"

That's why I work and struggle so hard, depending on Christ's mighty power that works within me. Colossians 1:29

I. What is my attitude toward suffering?

I am glad when I suffer ... Colossians 1:24a

4 checkpoints to a healthy attitude about suffering:

1, Suffering can be for a		
I am glad	Colossians 1:24a	
2. Suffering is not		19
when I suffer	Colossians 1:24b	
3. Will you suffer for		
for you	Colossians 1:24c	

What does Paul mean by this next statement?

for I am participating in the sufferings of Christ that continue....

Colossians 1:24d

Bible study rule:

Always understand unclear passages in the light of clear passages.

So Paul is just saying, the very things that would have come upon Jesus if He were here I'm getting.

4. Remember you're not		
for his body, the church.	Colossians 1:24e	

II. What's my reason for serving?

God has given me the responsibility of serving his church by proclaiming his entire message to you.

Colossians 1:25

What's the secret?

This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past, but now it has been revealed to God's people. Colossians 1:26

The word "secret" / "mystery" means something that once was hidden but now it's been brought out into the light.

What was brought to light?

For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory.

Colossians 1:27

Paul reason for serving:

So we tell others (tell openly) about Christ, warning everyone (warning gently) and teaching everyone (teaching clearly)with all the wisdom God has given us. We want to present them to God, perfect in their relationship to Christ. That's why I work and struggle so hard, depending on Christ's mighty power that works within me.

Colossians 1:28, 29

III. What's my people purpose?

I want you to know how much I have agonized for you and for the church at Laodicea, and for many other believers who have never met me personally. I want them to be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love. I want them to have complete confidence that they understand God's mysterious plan, which is Christ himself. 3 In him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Colossians 2:1-3

I am telling you this <u>so no one will deceive you</u> with well-crafted arguments. For though I am far away from you, my heart is with you. And I rejoice that you are living as you should and that your faith in Christ is strong.6 And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. 7 Let your roots grow down into him, and <u>let your lives be built on him.</u> Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow <u>with thankfulness</u>.

Colossians 2:4-7