

Hope Laid Up - Word of Truth the Gospel

Review:

- a. Paul & Tim express their gratitude for the faith – hope – love of these believers
- b. Thanks to GF of our LJC – Gratitude to GF for the plan, sending the Son
- c. Having heard of this new church, they added them to their daily prayers
- d. Faith – belief system; Hope – expectations; Love – relational strategies

Col 1:5-8 because of the hope laid up for you in heaven, which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel, (D,B,R)⁶ which has come to you, just as in all the world also it is constantly bearing fruit and increasing, even as *it has been doing* in you also since the day you heard *of it* and understood the grace of God in truth;⁷ just as you learned *it* from Epaphras, our beloved fellow bond-servant, who is a faithful servant of Christ on our behalf,⁸ and he also informed us of your love in the Spirit.

Vs 5b - F-H-L comes out of the word of truth → gospel by which we are saved

Faith – Christ – DBR; Expectation – assets laid up for us in heaven; Love – believers

- a. Believer's confidence about what awaits after death empowers the ability for UL
- b. UL is a relational approach that gives fully to others apart from what they deserve
- c. God's love poured out in our hearts (Rom 5:5) overflows to others through us.

Laid up – *apokeimai* – PPPtc – being saved up – continuously saved up & kept in a safe place

Lk 19 – man hid his master's investment to keep it safe

2T 4:8 laid up for me a crown of +R – rewards

Heb 9:27 both death & judgment have been saved up for all of us

- a. Hope/expectation looks forward to the future with confidence about heaven.

- b. Et. Security gives absolute confidence about salvation – face to face with Christ

2 Cor 5:6-8 *Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord--⁷ for we walk by faith, not by sight--⁸ we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.*

- c. Et past God created our blessings that He allocates one day at a time – logistic grace
- d. Our use of our grace blessings in time create rewards that are stored safely in heaven
- e. Cag's of Grace: saving, Union/Christ, logistics, GHS – mental/emotional transformation, bible, PT, church, prayer.
- f. All of these forms of blessings are available to every Ch-Age believer to experience victory in time & to receive rewards in eternity.
- g. We use grace blessings in time by learning the promises of them & then attaching our faith to the promises while walking the Spirit to live out the Christian walk in time.
- h. A warehouse filled with blessings used in time transferred to a warehouse in eternity where they

are kept safe for us until we arrive there at our death.

Vs 6 – which you **previously heard** – pros/akouo – to hear previously

- Paul refers to the gospel message preached by Epaphras by which they were saved
- A student of Paul started the Colossian church then visited Paul in jail – got stuck
- Their spiritual life was helped because Epaphras taught them from word of truth.

in the **word of truth** *logos aletheia*

Logos

a. **Logos** – word, idea, principle, concept, statement, assertion, declaration, message, content of instruction – A principled expression of the mind.

b. Christ is pure expression of divine nature – manifestation of divine nature

John 1:18 No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten God, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has expressed Him.

c. Eternal GS with divine essence & nature took on the essence & nature of a human man

Hypostatic Union – Undiminished deity & true humanity in one person forever

d. Logos = essential structure of reality governing the universe – Christ

Heb 1:2 – GS was the architect of the universe that GHS actually constructed

Heb 1:3 – He holds the entire creation together by His powerful word

e. Christ is the LOGOS through whom everything in creation came into being, is held together and it is He who will direct the destruction & replacement of the universe

Aletheia – truth

a. Lexicons:

Danker: Fundamental reality that transcends mere appearance or normal experience **J 18:37f**, expressed in spiritual and moral characteristics that signify deeply rooted integrity or fidelity in making good on acclaimed virtue, *dependability, uprightness, truthfulness*: does not renege on commitments **Ro 3:7**; displays integrity and fidelity in carrying out promises

Thayer: universally, *what is true in any matter under consideration* cp to what is feigned, fictitious, false)

LS: truthfulness, sincerity, frankness, candor

• That which is true cp false; real cp imagined; honest – genuine cp deceptive & a lie

b. Historical debate about absolute truth & relative truth – which is reality

Jn 18:38 – Pontius Pilate – what is truth? Is there any such thing as truth?

c. Distinguish between absolute truth, actual reality as God determines it moment by moment cp our perception of reality through the filters we build.

d. Relative reality is determined by view from individual claiming that their view is reality.

e. Historical tension between 2 views – Christians should attach faith to the word of truth

2 views: the **Realist** approach, in which there is a single, *objective*, overall reality believed to exist irrespective of the *perceptions* of any given individual (God's divine viewpoint) and the **Idealistic** approach, in which it is considered that an individual can verify nothing except their own *experience* of the world, and can never directly know the truth of the world independent of that.

• Does one actual reality exist and if so, can any one person understand and know reality?

• Does Christ through GHS enable the believer to know the truth revealed by the LOGOS?

John 8:32 and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

- Believe the scriptures contain the word of truth, the foundation being the gospel

Vs 5b – **Gospel:** What is the gospel, the good news? Does the word *euaggelion* refer to a specific and limited message from the word of truth or does it refer to the entire body of what Christ accomplished for us?

The Gospel

1. Greek – euaggelion – eu/good; aggelos – angel, messenger – message
- Good news, that what Christ did - D,B,R has opened door for us to believe/saved
2. 1Cor 15:3-4 – Gospel for Paul was D-B-R & can't remove the resurrection
- According to OT scriptures – Gospel in OT

Isaiah 59:1-2: "Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he won't hear."

Isa 53:1-10 Read

3. **Death** – Gen 3:15, animal sacrifices
4. **Burial** – Isa 53:9 – Grave with the wicked but a rich man in his death
5. **Resurrection**

Job 19:25 "And as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last He will take His stand on the earth.²⁶ "Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I shall see God;

Isaiah 26:19 Your dead will live; Their corpses will rise. You who lie in the dust, awake & shout for joy, For your dew is as the dew of the dawn, The earth will give birth to the departed spirits.

6. Power of God to save those who believe it – Rom 1:16

Understood – ***epiginosko*** AAI – intimate & real understanding, applicable

Grace of God – the essence of the gospel message is grace

by the truth – grace is the truth – in the midst of great error, grace is the truth

Vs 7 Epaphras – our beloved fellow servant of the Lord

- Minister of Christ for your sake
 - Informed us of your love coming from GHS
1. The gospel had come to the Roman province of Asia through Paul & the others.
 2. The church in Ephesus was the primary church in the area.
 3. From there people travelled back and forth for business & life, taking gospel with them
 4. Epaphras was saved, shared the gospel with friends in Col starting the church.
 5. He had come to visit Paul in prison bringing word of the new believers & church
 6. He had brought greetings and questions about doctrines that Paul answers