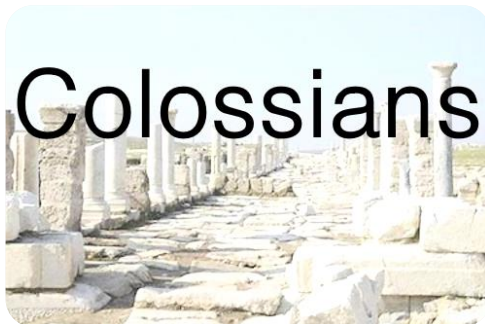


Paul just said we are strengthened... with all power to endurance and longsuffering... with joyfulness. I just can't picture heaven as a happy place... for grumpy people! Can you? And being so equipped, he says...



<sup>12</sup> **Giving thanks** / the word is: **eucharisteo**; now the 2<sup>nd</sup> of 6 times Paul uses the **Eucharist** word in this letter; but he doesn't use it like the hocus pocus church. He just says God's people ought to be **thankful** to God. Thanking Him shouldn't be foreign to us.

**Giving thanks to God the Father, who made you able to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light** / the holy ones... those set-apart in the light of His Word; in the light of His Presence. Paul tells us... it is the eternal Father...

<sup>13</sup> **who has delivered us from the power of darkness** / in Greek: **exousia**; He has rescued us from the great evil powers who turned against God in the heavens. They are powerful, creepy, evil beings **of darkness**; real beings. Paul writes about them in Ephesians, chapter 6. They are monstrously evil; the inspiration for every caesar, every inquisitor, every Hitler... Stalin... Ceausescu... and Pol Pot-- small and great: even in our countries; the power of darkness is still feverishly at work in this generation.

**God the Father has delivered us** / He rescued us. **and has transferred us into the kingdom of His dear Son:**

<sup>14</sup> **In whom we have redemption** / fully purchased, fully reclaimed, **through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins** / even being released from our sins...

all thanks to His dear Son:

保罗只是说，我们被加添了一切能忍耐忍耐的力量，并且喜乐。我无法想象天堂是一个快乐的地方，对于脾气暴躁的人来说！你能吗？装备如此齐全，他说...

<sup>12</sup> **又感谢父**， / 这个词是：**eucharisteo**；保罗在这封信中使用了 6 次中的第 2 次圣餐词；但他并没有像魔法教堂那样使用它。他只是说上帝的子民应该感谢上帝。对我们来说，感谢上帝并不陌生。

**叫我们能与众圣徒在光明中同得基业。** / 圣者...那些在神的话语中被分开的；以祂的同在为光。保罗告诉我们...这是永恒的父...

<sup>13</sup> **他救了我们脱离黑暗的权势，把我们迁到他爱子的国里。** / 在希腊:exousia;他救了我们脱离那在天上悖逆神的大恶势力。他们是强大的、令人毛骨悚然的、邪恶的黑暗生物;真正的人类。保罗在《以弗所书》第 6 章写到。他们极其邪恶;每一个凯撒，每一个检察官，每一个希特勒...斯大林...齐奥塞斯库...还有波尔布特—无论大小;甚至在我们的国家;黑暗的力量仍在这一代人中狂热地发挥作用。

**他救了我们脱离黑暗的权势，把我们迁到他爱子的国里。**

<sup>14</sup> **我们在爱子里得蒙救赎，** / **藉著他的血**，我们可以完全赎得、完全赎得、甚至罪得赦免、从罪中得释放...**罪过得以赦免。**  
感谢他的爱子：

<sup>15</sup> who is the **image** of the invisible God / in Greek: **eikon**; and in the next several verses... Paul tells us why God said, **You will have NO other gods before Me; you will make NO images of things in heaven or on earth to bow down, to worship.** HE already had an IMAGE in view that has NO equal; as has been said: like Father, like Son; He is God with a Face; who established all the ends of the earth: [what is His name or His son's name? Surely you know](#) – Proverbs 30. on

the Firstborn of every creature:

<sup>16</sup> For by Him were all things created, in the heavens, and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, or dominions, or arches or powers / rulers, like monarchs; on earth and in heaven; administrative terrestrial and spiritual powers:

all / no exception, were created by Him, and for Him:

<sup>17</sup> and He is before all, and by Him all things consist / in Greek: **sunhistemi**: all created systems in whatever part of the universe -- are held together and function because of Him.

Dr. Dallas Willard once asked, do we really believe that? Are the stars in the heavens because God's Son put them there? Does our nose not fall off our face and bounce on the floor because He created us?

<sup>18</sup> And **He is the head of the body** / and what is the **HEAD**? eyes, ears, nose, mouth, and brains, right? His eyes, He sees what is going on, He is not myopic; His ears, He hears everyone who calls on His name, He is not deaf; His nose, He knows what is sweet smelling, and what stinks; His mouth, **God in times past spoke in little bits and pieces through the prophets, but in the last days spoke to us through His Son.** Jesus said, My sheep know My voice, and a stranger they will not follow; and He knows the way home, right?

<sup>15</sup> 爱子是那不能看见之神的像，  
/在希腊: **eikon**;在接下来的几节中，保罗告诉我们为什么神说，除了我以外，你们不能有别的神;你不可在天上或地上雕刻偶像，用以跪拜崇拜。他心中已经有了一个独一无二的形象;就如经上所说，有父，就有子。他是有脸的神;他建立地的四极。他叫**什么名、他儿子叫什么名**。你当然知道-箴言 30。

是首生的，在一切被造的以先。

<sup>16</sup> 因为万有都是靠他造的，无论是天上的，地上的，能看见的，不能看见的，或是有位的，主治的，执政的，掌权的，/统治者，像君主;在地上，在天上;行政陆地和精神力量:

一概都是借着 he 造的，又是为他造的。

<sup>17</sup> 他在万有之先，万有也靠他而立。/  
在希腊语中:sunhistemi:在宇宙的任何部分，所有被创造的系统——因为他而结合在一起并发挥作用。

达拉斯·威拉德博士曾问，我们真的相信吗?星星在天上是因为上帝的儿子把它们放在那里的吗?我们的鼻子不是因为他创造了我们而从脸上掉下来，在地板上弹跳吗?

<sup>18</sup> **他也是教会全体之首**。/脑袋是什么?眼睛，耳朵，鼻子，嘴巴和大脑，对吧?他的眼睛，他看见所发生的一切，他不是近视眼;凡求告他名的、他必侧耳而听、并非耳聋。他的鼻子知道什么是甜的，什么是臭的;**神在古时用他的口，藉着先知，点点滴滴地说话，但在末世，却藉着他的儿子，向我们说话**。耶稣说，我的羊认得我的声音，不跟从外邦人。竟他知道回家的路，对吧?

And everyone else, is the body, from shoulders and hands, to carry and help and welcome; to feet and toes... to keep walking step by step, and keep things in balance,

the **Head of the church** / who is the **Beginning, the Firstborn from the dead;** that in all He has the preeminence / in everything; nothing left out: this dear Son is: Mr. Numero Uno! Wow! Great IMAGE, isn't He? definitely nobody is like Him... God wants us to keep HIM in view. we take our marching orders from Him:

<sup>19</sup> Notice the words in *italics*; italicized words are added... to help the language. Let's read...

For it pleased **the Father** / and I'm sure that's true... but it could also say;

For it pleased *Them... The Father... The Son... The Holy Spirit* / the Deity, all the Godhead, and anyone else at the committee meeting... when THEY said, Let US make man in OUR image.

For it pleased Them all, that in Him should all the fullness dwell / who is the Firstborn from the dead, in other words: the fullness of the invisible God resides in Him;

<sup>20</sup> and, having made peace through the blood of His cross by Him, to reconcile all to Himself; by Him whether on earth, or in heaven. / between God and all mankind, by this Firstborn from the dead, to bring all together again; by the Firstborn from the dead.

<sup>21</sup> And you, who were previously alienated and enemies in your mind... by evil works, yet now He has reconciled / we all were strangers; yet He has reassembled, and brought together again;

而其他人，则是身体，从肩膀和手，来搬运、帮助和欢迎;到脚和脚趾，保持一步一步走，保持平衡，

他是元始，是从死里首先复生的，使他可以在凡事上居首位。/在一切;没有什么遗漏:这个亲爱的儿子是: no . Uno 先生!哇!伟大的形象，不是吗?毫无疑问，没有人像他一样，上帝想让我们一直注视着他。我们听从他的行军命令:

<sup>19</sup> 注意斜体字;斜体字被添加，以帮助语言。让我们读……

因为这使天父高兴/我相信这是真的…但它也可以说;

因为当圣父、圣子、圣灵/神、所有的神，以及委员会会议上的任何人，当他们说，让我们按照我们的形象造人。

因为父喜欢叫一切的丰盛，在他里面居住。/换句话说，就是从死里复活的，那看不见的神的丰满住在他里面。

<sup>20</sup> 既然借着他在十字架上所流的血，成就了和平，便借着他叫万有，无论是地上的，天上的，都与自己和好了。/在上帝和全人类之间，借着这从死里复活的长子，使所有人都复活;从死里复活的长子。

<sup>21</sup> 你们从前与神隔绝，因着恶行，心里与他为敌。/我们都是陌生人;然而他聚集又聚集。

**22 in the body of His flesh through His death** / it was a real death; not a philosophic metaphor, not like: **Marge, I'm dying to see you.** His was a real death He died -- blood, guts, the whole thing. And why these extreme measures? Why did He do that? Paul says...

**to present you holy** / not that we were holy or whole, or set-apart... because we weren't. But that He would judicially Substitute His life for us... that we could substitute our twisted, ruined lives for His.

**to present you without blame and without reproach in His sight**/ someday we will not need to be tested; Wow! In His eyes; He has no astigmatism; He knows what is going on; He knows who we are. He needs no bifocals; He needs nobody's help. When we were strangers... **when we were enemies...** **Christ died for us**; He did it all... to present us... unblameable... in His sight. Yet, paradoxically Paul adds...

**23 If you continue in the faith, grounded and settled and not move away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, and which was proclaimed to every creature which is under heaven; for which I Paul am made a minister;** / continue walking worthily in faith, in hope and love; stabilized, in His word; advancing His direction; holding His promises; hoping in Him and not let go: **our hope is in heaven where Christ sat down** -- Hebrews 6.

Hold onto the gospel...

**24 I now rejoice in my sufferings for His body's sake – for you who are the church and in my flesh, I fill up what is lacking of the afflictions of Christ / the Messiah.**

**And don't overthink this verse.** Paul just said: in Christ... we have redemption and forgiveness of sins through His blood. Done; finished on the cross, something only our Savior could do. Paul is talking about representing Christ to the world, serving in the church Jesus is building.

**22 但如今他借着基督的肉身受死，** / 这是真正的死亡;这不是一个哲学隐喻，不是像：**马姬，我非常想见你。**他真的死了他死了，血，内脏，全部都死了。为什么要采取这些极端措施?他为什么要这样做?保罗说...

**叫你们与自己和好，都成了圣洁，** / 这并不是说我们是神圣的或完整的，或者是分离的，因为我们不是。但他会用他的生命来代替我们...我们可以用我们扭曲的、被毁的生命来代替他的生命。

**没有瑕疵，无可责备，把你们引到自己面前。** / 总有一天，我们不需要接受考验;哇!在他的眼睛;他没有散光;他知道发生了什么;他知道我们是谁。他不需要双光眼镜;他不需要任何人的帮助。当我们作客旅的时候，**当我们为仇敌的时候，基督为我们死**;他所做的一切...都是为了让...在他面前...无可指责。然而，矛盾的是，保罗补充说...

**23 只要你们在所信的道上恒心，根基稳固，坚定不移，不至被引动失去原文作离开福音的盼望。这福音就是你们所听过的，也是传与普天下万人听的。万人原文作凡受造的我保罗也作了这福音的执事。** / 你们要在信心、盼望和爱中，恒久无愧地行事;用他的话来说，是稳定的;推进他的方向;拿着他的承诺;**我们的盼望在天上，就是基督所坐的地方。**——希伯来书 6

持守福音...

**24 现在我为你们受苦，倒觉欢乐，并且为基督的身体，就是为教会，要在我肉身上补满基督患难的缺欠。/弥赛亚**

**不要过多地思考这一节。** 保罗刚才说:在基督里，我们通过他的血得到救赎和罪的赦免。完成;在十字架上完成，只有我们的救主才能完成。保罗说的是向世界展示基督，在耶稣所建立的教会里服事。

So, **what is missing in this equation?**

Paul says, we had the joy of sinning daily; and Jesus Christ had the joy of dying for our sins? We live in a broken world. So, what is missing? In the world we have tribulations, the poundings that toughen our faith. What is lacking?

If we jump from an airplane, but forget to check the parachute, being so excited, we can fly! Well, no we can't. Or the teenager who said, **My car, My rules...** and all her friends hopped in the car. 5 minutes later, all her friends were dead -- she was drunk. We still are responsible for failures; a lot might be lacking, starting with common sense and how easy we blame God.

**I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, who are the church... and in my flesh / while I am still alive, I fill up what is lacking, of the afflictions of Christ / the Messiah** ...this is the 7<sup>th</sup> time Paul speaks of Christ; the Messiah. Paul is willing to give his life for Him who died for us, who is Head over all;

<sup>25</sup> **where I am made a minister, according to the stewardship which is given to me for you, to fully proclaim the word of God** / in Greek: **oikonomia**; where we get the word: **economy**. Man's economy and house rules are run by thieves and robbers. That is not God's style; here Paul says God runs the house He is building; He will tell us where to stand. Paul says that he was assigned to be a servant in God's house for our benefit. How different Paul was from those who claim to be God's servants today;

**to fully proclaim the word of God,**

<sup>26</sup> **including the mystery / of Christ, the Messiah which had been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to His saints / so it is no longer a mystery** to those He sets apart:

那么, **这个方程中缺少什么呢?**

保罗说,我们天天犯罪,我们有喜乐;耶稣基督为我们的罪而死?我们生活在一个破碎的世界。那么,缺失了什么呢?在这个世界上,我们有苦难,苦难使我们的信仰更加坚定。缺乏的是什么呢?

如果我们从飞机上跳下来,但忘记检查降落伞,如此兴奋,我们可以飞行!不,我们不能。或者一个青少年说,我的车,我的规矩,然后她所有的朋友都跳进车里。5 分钟后,她所有的朋友都死了——她喝醉了。我们仍然要为失败负责;我们可能还缺少很多东西,首先是常识和我们多么容易责怪上帝。

现在我为你们受苦,倒觉欢乐,并且为基督的身体,就是为教会,要在我肉身上补满基督患难的缺欠。/这是保罗第七次提到基督:弥赛亚。保罗愿意为那为我们死的主舍命。他是万有之首。

<sup>25</sup> **我照神为你们所赐我的职分,作了教会的执事,要把神的道理传得全备。** /在希腊:oikonomia;我们从哪里得到这个词:经济。

人的经济和家规都是由小偷和强盗操纵的。这不是上帝的风格;在这里,保罗说上帝经营着他所建造的房子;他会告诉我们该站在哪。保罗说他被派去作神家里的仆人,是为了我们的利益。保罗和今天那些自称是神仆人的人是多么的不同;

**要把神的道理传得全备。**

<sup>26</sup> **这道理就是历世历代所隐藏的奥秘/基督的,弥赛亚 但如今向他的圣徒显明了。/所以在他所分别的人,这就不再是谜了。**

**27 to whom God made known what is the riches of this glorious mystery among the Gentiles** / the treasure, the value, the costliness of Jesus Christ, the Good Pastor who came searching for His sheep. He is this priceless, glory of God. Paul says, God planned to make known even among the Gentiles -- all the nations... this rich and costly mystery.

And the glorious Centerpiece? **His dear Son**: The Firstborn of every creature; Who holds all things together; Who was in the beginning; Who is the Firstborn from the dead... that He is preeminent. If anyone is going to boast; this One can; and God so loves Him; He's not going to object.

**this glorious mystery, Christ in us, is our hope of glory / He is our only Hope:**

Paul says,

**28 this is whom we preach, warning everyone** / man, woman and child; young and old; rich and poor... in every nation; every ethnicity and language group,

**and teaching everyone in all wisdom; that we may present everyone perfect in Christ Jesus / complete, mature in the Messiah...** who first came in humility, but will come again in great glory:

**29 to this I also labor, striving according to His working** / to this he fatigued and got tired... agonizing; being energized through His Spirit...

**who works within me mightily.**

**27 神愿意叫他们知道，这奥秘在外邦人中有何等丰盛的荣耀。** / 耶稣基督的宝藏、价值和昂贵，这位寻找他的羊的好牧师。他是无价的，神的荣耀。保罗说，神要叫外邦万国，都知道这又丰富又宝贵的奥秘。

那辉煌的餐桌中心呢？**他的爱子**，是一切被造物所生的。他使万物团结；谁是起初的；谁是一个从死里出来的...他是卓越的。若有人要自夸。这人能；神也爱他。他不会反对的。

**就是基督在你们心里成了有荣耀的盼望。 / 他是我们仅有的希望：**

保罗说，

**28 我们传扬他，是用诸般的智慧，劝戒各人，** / 男人、女人和孩子；年轻人和老年人；每个国家的富人和穷人；每个种族和语言群体，**教导各人。要把各人在基督里完完全全的引到神面前。** / 在弥赛亚里得以完全，得以成熟...他先来是谦卑的，将来要大有荣耀。

**29 我也为此劳苦，照着他在里面运用的大能，** / 他为此感到疲倦，越来越疲倦...痛苦不堪；被圣灵所激励...

**尽心竭力。**

**This is My Father's World**