Motivated by Hope

Kris Emerson · Colossians 1:1–23

INTRODUCTION

- Every time we open this book, it doesn't matter where we go, that our first question is, what can I learn about my Savior?
- We must learn of him first, because everything that emanates from the goodness of Jesus is good.

1 Everything Should Begin With Jesus Christ

1 Corinthians 1:1–9; Ephesians 1:3–7; Ephesians 4:1

- It's an oversimplification to say the gospels are about Jesus and the rest of the New Testament are about rules.
- Never stop using Jesus language. Never stop talking about his goodness.
- You cannot walk in a manner worthy unless you understand how beautiful it is to be saved by Jesus.
- Everything should begin with the name of Jesus Christ. Every conversation, every contention, everything.

2 Faith, Love and Fruit Because of Hope

Colossians 1:1–8

- Because of the hope laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth the gospel.
- This text is not saying, be awesome, get rewarded. It's saying God is awesome.
- The word hope means joyful and confident expectation.
- I can't go anywhere unless I receive the fuel. The fuel is hope.

3 Without That Joy, the Works Won't Work

1 Peter 1:3–9; Hebrews 6:19–20; 1 John 3:1–3

- Who according to his great mercy, has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
- Without that joy, the works won't work. You either won't be able to accomplish them, or it won't matter if you do.
- This hope that God keeps his promises, we have as an anchor of the soul.
- You can't go out there and do great unless the fullness of Jesus is fueling all of your decisions.

4 You Need More Knowledge of the Lord

Colossians 1:9–12; Colossians 1:26–27

- So that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God.
- In other words, do the things that please God every day and be happy about it.
- Blow up the boxes. Jesus is bigger, deeper, better, stronger, more present and capable.
- God's will is for the riches of the glory of the great mystery of the ages, which is Christ Jesus to be in you.

5 Do You Know What He Has Done?

Colossians 1:13–22; Ephesians 1:18

- He rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of our sins.
- This letter doesn't open with, here are the things you need to do. They open with, Do you know what he has done?
- He's a peacemaker, but it didn't come cheap, verse 20. His peace came through the blood of his cross.
- I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened. So that you will know what is the hope of his calling.

6 Not Moving Away From the Hope of the Gospel

Colossians 1:22–23; 1 John 1

- If you continue in the faith, firmly established and steadfast, not moving away from the hope of the gospel that you've heard.
- Like, don't do lists, do context.
- He's saying if you continue in your belief in the Lord Jesus Christ, and continue to be firmly established upon him.
- You need to have the hope to keep the works moving in the right direction.

THE CHALLENGE

Are you willing to give it your best effort, your strongest work, to do what you can purely because of the hope you have in the Lord and what you know about him. Is that enough?

MY NOTES