

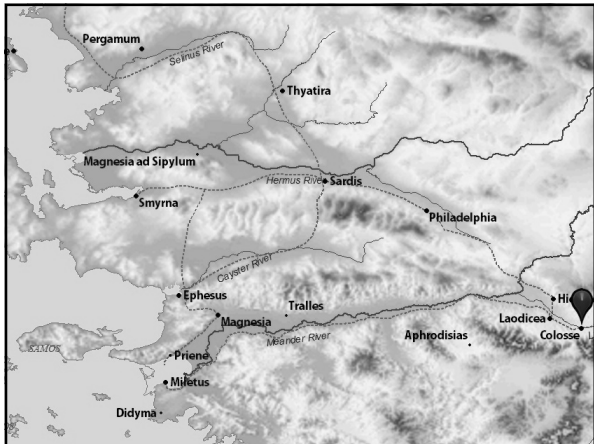
Colossians 2:1-7

The Apostle's task and the "Mystery of Christ"

Outline

- Colossians 1:24-2:5 Apostolic Task of Paul
- Colossians 2:6-15 Christ in His Fullness

Colossians 1:24-29 General Terms
Colossians 2:1-5 Direct personal address (you)



Paul's Struggle For The Lycus Valley Saints

Colossians 2:1-2 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have on your behalf and for those who are at Laodicea, and for all those who have not personally seen my face, that their hearts may be encouraged, **having been knit together** in love and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is Christ Himself...

Christ: Storehouse of All Wisdom

...true knowledge of God's mystery, Christ Himself...

Colossians 2:3 in whom are hidden **all** the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Genesis 3:15 "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed, He shall bruise you on the head and you shall bruise him on the heel."

1st Peter 1:10-11 As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries, seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow.

Paul Warns The Flock

* This is the first explicit warning by Paul of the heresy faced by those at Colossae and surrounding areas.

Colossians 2:4-5 I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument. For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability **of your faith in Christ**.

Christ alone	Christ + invoking angels
Saving Faith	Apostasy

Sanctification Is By Grace Too!

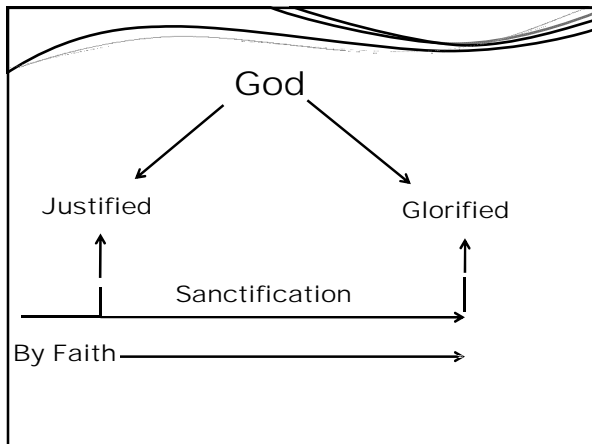
Colossians 2:6-7 Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, **having been firmly rooted** and now **being built up** in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

Galatians 3:2-3 This is the only thing I want to find out from you; did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, **are you now being perfected by the flesh?**

Christian Yoga?

- Being quiet with God allows us to create enough psychological and spiritual space that God can truly create an inner sanctuary in us. Being quiet enough to hear our Lord's voice is not optional-- it's essential for growth. Let God bless your efforts to get closer to Him and the joy-filled, healthy life He has planned for you!

(<http://www.christianyoga.us/home.htm>)



Application

Let us examine ourselves this morning and ask:

1. Am I trusting in Christ alone for salvation?
2. Am I trusting in what Christ has commanded alone for sanctification?

Galatians 5:2,4 Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no benefit to you... You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

"Repent and believe the gospel" Mark 1:15
