

Colossians 1:24-29

The Hope of Glory Revealed

Paul's call ...

I. A Peculiar Joy

A. Suffering for Christ's Church

B. Toiling with His Energy

II. As a Steward of the Word

A. Making the Word Known

B. Proclaiming a Mystery

III. And the Riches of Glory

A. Christ in You

B. The Hope of Glory

... to make disciples.

Children, Listen ...

1. Why do you think Paul worked so hard to bring the Gospel to people?
2. How do you think Paul was able to rejoice in His suffering for preaching the Gospel?
3. Is it important for people who believe in Jesus to keep growing in faith?
How do we do that?

A Dynamite Message

In this amazing passage Paul describes the joy he finds in his calling as a minister of God's Word. Interestingly he uses the word for "deacon" with reference to his ministry as a steward of God's Word. He sees it as a privilege to not only to *serve*, but even to suffer for the opportunity to bring God's message to saints and sinners. His toiling is great – the word he uses for *struggling* in v. 29 is the basically our word *agonize*, but then he follows that up with the fact that he is *energized* (our word for energy) with the *powerful* (the Greek word he uses is the root word for our word dynamite!) with which God *energizes* (he uses the same word again) him with! We may see Paul as an apostolic superhero, but He makes it clear that not only was His message from God, his ability to endure great trials to proclaim it was only possible through special strength given by God. If you asked Paul he would tell you that all glory goes to God, but we can all be thankful for men like the apostle who had the drive and dedication to bring God's Word to those who so desperately need it.