

Gospel



THE GOSPEL AND STEADFASTNESS

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Colossians 1:21-23

“And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, *if indeed you continue in*

the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.”

~ Colossians 1:21-23

**God did not give us His
gospel only for our
conversion. He offers it
to us everyday as a gift
that keeps on giving to us
everything we need for
life and godliness.**

I. Who We Were

Gospel



**“And you, who once were
*alienated and hostile in
mind, doing evil deeds...*”**

~ Colossians 1:21

I. Who We Were

1. We were alienated

I. Who We Were

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2. Hostile in mind

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1. We were alienated
2. Hostile in mind
3. Doing evil deeds

**“It is monstrous to be told,
that you have a heart as
sinful as the common
wretches that crawl on the
earth. This is highly
offensive and insulting; and
I cannot but wonder that
your lady-ship should**

**relish any sentiments so
much at variance with high
rank and good breeding.”**

~ R. Kent Hughes

Quoted in Colossians Commentary, pg. 39

“Perhaps you’re wondering why Paul even bothers to describe that season of our earthly sojourn that most of us would just as soon forget. I assure you that it isn’t out of some morbid

**fascination...but rather to
highlight and magnify the
wonder and majesty of
God's grace and kindness
in Jesus. It isn't in our
sinful past that Paul's
emphasis**

**lies, but in the mighty
mercy of God in
reconciling himself to us
through Jesus.”**

~ Sam Storms

The Hope of Glory, pg. 108

II. Who We Are

Gospel



**“...he has now *reconciled*
in his body of flesh by his
death, *in order to present*
you holy and blameless
and above reproach
before him...”**

~ Colossians 1:22

1. In Christ we are not who
we once were!

Good



1. In Christ we are not who we once were!

- Reconciled, no longer alienated!

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- Reconciled, no longer alienated!
- Holy, not hostile!

1. In Christ we are not who we once were!

- Reconciled, no longer alienated!
- Holy, not hostile!
- Blameless and above reproach, not doing evil deeds!

**III. Future Presentation,
Provided Our
Continuation, Of
Which Paul Is Sure**

***“...if indeed you continue
in the faith, stable and
steadfast, not shifting
from the hope of the
gospel that you heard...”***

~ Colossians 1:23

1. A necessary condition

Gospel



1. A necessary condition

- Continue in faith.

1. A necessary condition

- Continue in faith.
- Continue to be stable and steadfast.

“...The wise believer will make sure he’s positioning himself in the spot where God’s gracious gifts are located. And the Scripture teaches that all such gifts are located in the gospel. Hence, the Bible

**tells Christians to be
continuously established
and steadfast in the gospel
and refuse to be moved
from there.”**

~ Milton Vincent

"Believers run the race to the end (Phil. 3:12-16), not by concentrating on doing good works but by faith. Running the race to the end means that we look to Christ for righteousness instead of ourselves. What it means to

persevere, then, is not to gauge how far we have come but to keep clinging to Christ until the end. The good fruit comes not as we look to ourselves but as we deny any self-righteousness and find our righteousness in Christ. The

call to perseverance, in other words, is a call to faith, not a call to work up the energy to make it to the end by our own strength."

~ Milton Vincent, pg. 73

- Hostile one, you need reconciled.

- Hostile one, you need reconciled.
- Child of God, continue!

“When your conscience is pricked by the memory of failure and sin, a simple cry of *but now* will bring healing and hope.

When the enemy assaults your soul with reminders of how unworthy you were,

a simple cry of “Yes, *but now* I’ve been made worthy in Christ” will suffice.

When he insinuates that no one with history so filled with failure, ingratitude, and selfishness could possibly be a Christian, rebuff him with a

hearty and defiant, “*But now I have a clean slate and new life and joy and the promise of God’s abiding presence.*”

Fight the paralyzing power of past transgressions and the crippling fear of

**what may lie ahead by
strengthening your soul
with the inspired promise
that *now*, because of Christ
and in Christ, you are
reconciled and redeemed.”**

~ Sam Storms

The Hope of Glory, pg. 112

