

Colossians

(9) Paul's ministry goals

Col 1:24-29

24 Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. 25 I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— 26 the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints. 27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

28 We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. 29 To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.

NIV

Paul's ministry goals...1:24-25

What was Paul's *attitude* toward the persecution he had endured? 1:24a; James 1:2-4

What does Paul mean by '*fill up in my flesh what is still lacking...*'? 1:24; Mt.10:24-25

Is Paul here teaching that *he needed to augment Christ's suffering for salvation*? 1:15-23

What is one way this verse has been distorted? 1:22; IICor.5:6-9; Eph.2:8-10; Rom.8:1

So clearly, what was Paul *suffering for*? 1:24b, 25 see IITim.2:8-10; Eph.3:13

What else does Paul make clear in 1:25? Eph.3:1-3; Gal.2:7-10; IITim.4:1-8

The mystery, Christ in you...1:26-29

What, specifically, was Paul commissioned to preach? 1:26; see Mt.13:10-12

And what is this *specific* mystery? 1:27; Jn.14:18-20, 17:22-23; Rom.5:1-2, 8:9-11; Gal.2:20

What (3) things were part of Paul's *process* for proclaiming Christ? 1:18a

What *very specific goal* was at the end of this process? 1:28b; Note: IICor.11:2

What essential truth does Paul now add? 1:29 (Divine cooperative)

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Paul's ministry goals...1:24-25

What was Paul's *attitude* toward the persecution he had endured? 1:24a; James 1:2-4

It was rejoicing! Note that his suffering was for you (Colossians), part of His body, church.

What does Paul mean by 'fill up in my flesh what is still lacking...'? 1:24; Mt.10:24-25

It is expected that disciples of Christ suffer for Him. In that sense we 'fill up...what lacks'.

Is Paul here teaching that *he needed to augment Christ's suffering for salvation*? 1:15-23

Absolutely NOT! That would be totally absurd as 1:15-23 teaches. Not a salvation issue.

What is one way this verse has been distorted? 1:22; IICor.5:6-9; Eph.2:8-10; Rom.8:1

The teaching of purgatory. Unscriptural after-death suffering to 'fill up...what's lacking'.

So clearly, what was Paul *suffering for*? 1:24b, 25 see IITim.2:8-10; Eph.3:13

He suffered to present the Word of God to the Church. IITim.2:10, for those chosen!

What else does Paul make clear in 1:25? Eph.3:1-3; Gal.2:7-10; IITim.4:1-8

I have been commissioned/appointed to minister to the Church by God Himself. Not me!

The mystery, Christ in you...1:26-29

What, specifically, was Paul commissioned to preach? 1:26; see Mt.13:10-12

The mystery, hidden for ages and generation, but is now disclosed to the saints.

And what is this *specific* mystery? 1:27; Jn.14:18-20, 17:22-23; Rom.5:1-2, 8:9-11; Gal.2:20

The glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory!

What (3) things were part of Paul's *process* for proclaiming Christ? 1:18a

1-admonishing (warning) and 2-teaching (instructing) and 3- done w/wisdom (application).

What *very specific goal* was at the end of this process? 1:28b; Note: IICor.11:2

To present everyone (all believers) perfect (mature) in Christ (in their walk with Him).

What essential truth does Paul now add? 1:29 (Divine cooperative)

I labor (toil to exhaustion) w/His energy (power), working in me. My part + His power!