## Biblical Study Insights

A Weekly Compilation by Rodney "Roc" Foreman

## "The Hope of Glory"

"...God gave me to present to you The Word of God in its FULLNESS - The Mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to The Lord's People. 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...."

Colossians 1:25-27 NIV

There is nothing in the world comparable to the intimate fellowship that only God gives and initiates. I often marvel at the fact that the very God who created the sun, the moon, the stars, the land and seas is the SAME God who lives inside of me. Such wonder is too difficult for me to fathom, much less communicate. It is humanly mysterious, yet spiritually revealing!

How many of us have longed for a greater experience of God – an experience that transcends mere worldly "matters?" It seems (now more than ever) that our world tinkers and toggles on the brink of serious chaos - the kind of chaos that we have never witnessed in the entire historical human experience. Recently, in our Biblical Study sessions, we have been discovering that God desires for us to know and experience "... The Immeasurable Riches of The Grace of God...." Ephesians 2:6-10; The Grace of God that comes from "... The Fullness of Jesus Christ...." John 1:16-17; The Fullness of God as understood from "... Taking part in His Divine Nature...." 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 1:3-4

Thanks be to God, who has made it a priority to reveal Himself to His creation! Accordingly, His revelation has offered us the opportunity to experience Him in ways we never imagined – giving His people reason to HOPE! Our Text has much to say about this idea – more than we can communicate in this short study. However, a few points from this passage rings loudly for our spiritual motivation and endurance.

Firstly, Paul says that God has "...manifested a mystery...." that was hidden for generations. The word translated "mystery" here is the Greek word, Musterion (moos-tay'-ree-on) which are... Spiritual secrets obtained by secret spiritual counseling and the introduction to an image, form or vision.

So then, God has manifested something that is ONLY received through counseling (a PERSONAL Relationship), whereby we see HIS FORM and VISION (WOW... I wish I had time to elaborate this point further). Ah, but what is the "Mystery" (or secrets) that God gives us within the realm of a Personal Relationship with Him? Paul says it is "...Christ IN YOU...."

Who can fathom the idea of Christ, (The Savior & Lord of ALL), residing on the inside of human beings. This experience of the INDWELLING Christ, Paul says, will offer us "The Hope of Glory." The word "Hope" here is the Greek, "Elpis", which is... The anticipation of joyful promise; the expectation of intimate Goodness, and that, for the purpose of productive service.

The "Glory" is something to really think about here. It is the Greek, Doxa (Dox'-ah) which gives a different meaning than a more popular knowledge of "Glory." It means the fullness of Splendor, Brightness, Honor, Dignity, Grace, and Preeminence of Godly perfection and Godly Ordination. In other words, THIS "Glory" is something that God designs within us while we are shown The Fullness of HIMSELF. It is something that we give to Him because we have no choice in the matter. We didn't design it, we didn't see it without Him and we couldn't know it without His revelation. This is why it's a secret, because without Christ in us, there is not even a thought in our feeble minds to clue us in on the idea of what His Presence within us really means.

"...You will make known to me The Path of Life; In Your Presence is Fullness of Joy; In Your Right Hand there are Pleasures forever...."

Psalm 16:11

Grace & Peace, Roc