

SERMON NOTES 4/11/26



The mystery that has been revealed is that Christ lives in us and His promises are available to all. When we behold this mystery, perhaps we will walk more and more in union with God!

1. In **Colossians 1:24** Paul talks about joining in the sufferings of Christ, not the sufferings of the cross, rather the afflictions that come by way of our ministry. When we truly walk with God, the ministry that comes from our lives will invite the afflictions of the world, but our glory is that people will see Jesus and come to know Him through our willingness to join in life with Christ.
2. **John 15:18-19** reminds us that the system of the world will hate us because it hated the One we are in union with. It is key to remember the world is a system of dominion under darkness, not a people. The people who are unbelievers are under that system, our call is to show them a better system, the Kingdom!
3. **Colossians 1:25-26** speaks of a mystery hidden for ages, not absent, but hidden. We see in **Ephesians 3:1-12** and **Isaiah 49:6** is that the mystery is that God is available to all and God is for all. He is not exclusive to one people or nation; He simply offered them a promise that would also be offered to all. We are called to have fellowship with this mystery and in that union living, all principalities and powers will know who we are in union with. When angels see union, they come. When demons see union, they flee. When people see union, they will either cling to or hate, but the call is the same in all these things - to reveal Jesus in a life of union.
4. **Colossians 1:27** says Christ living in us is this mystery and we get to share in His glory. Glory is not a destination; it is a state of being - and we share the same glory that is Jesus when we say yes to Jesus. Christ living in us is the very thing that should define us. Even the earth is seeking freedom from death (**Romans 8:20-21**). So when we walk in union and we share the glory with God (worth) - all environments will shift according to the Kingdom that we are living in as a result of our union.
5. **Colossians 1:28-29** tells us to warn everyone and present them to God in perfect relationship. The word "warn" in Greek is "nouthetountes" meaning to impart understanding. The understanding we are called to share is the mystery we are called to behold, Christ lives in us and He is available to all. All of our lives should be surrendered to Him and sharing this wonderful truth with everyone through the image of Jesus in and through our lives.