



## **Victorious Jesus: Delight During the Disruption | | Colossians 1:24-2:5**

### **Colossians 1:24-2:5**

<sup>24</sup> Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, <sup>25</sup> of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup> the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup> To

them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup> Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. <sup>29</sup> For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

**2** For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, <sup>2</sup> that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, <sup>3</sup> in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. <sup>4</sup> I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments. <sup>5</sup> For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ.

**Crisis will either produce resignation or it will produce renewal. We get to choose which.**

Options #1 for facing 2020 (and seasons like it):  
It sucks, and I don't make anything of it

Option #2 for facing 2020 (and seasons like it):  
It sucks, but I try to channel the difficulty into self-improvement

Option #3 for facing 2020 (and seasons like it):  
It sucks, but I steward the difficulty for the glory of God

**The Mystery to Savor**

### **Colossians 1:26-27**

<sup>26</sup>the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup>To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

## **The Calling to Steward**

### **Colossians 1:25, 28**

<sup>25</sup>of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known...<sup>28</sup>Him [Jesus] we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

“This whole business of asking for special calls to missionary work does violence to the Bible. There is the command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." We say, "That means other people." There is the promise, "Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." We say, "That means me." [We think] we must have a special divine indication that we fall under the command; we do not ask any special divine indication that we fall under the blessing. By what right do we draw this line of distinction between the obligations of Christianity and its privileges? By what right do we accept the privileges as applying to every Christian and relegate its obligations to the conscience of the few?" – Robert E. Speer

## **The Energy for the Struggle**

### **Colossians 1:29**

<sup>29</sup>For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.