

Victorious Jesus: Already, Not Yet | Colossians 1:1-14

Colossians 1:1-14

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

2To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

3We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, **4**since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, **5**because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, **6**which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, **7**just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf **8**and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

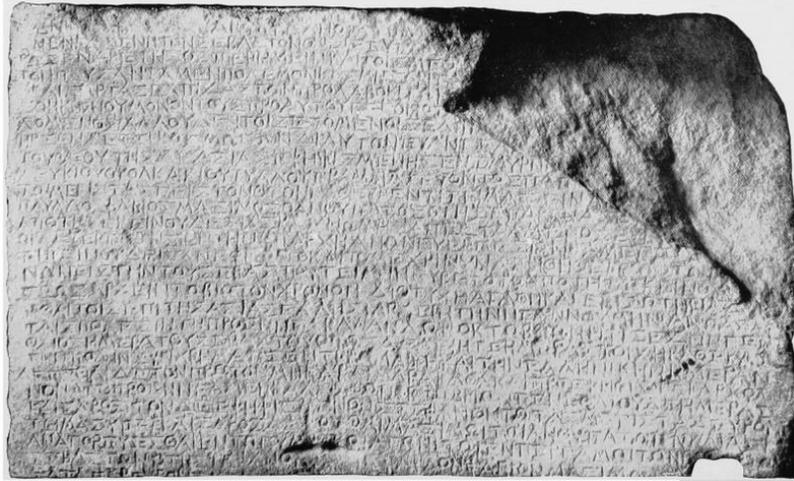
9And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, **10**so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; **11**being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; **12**giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. **13**He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, **14**in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.



What's the situation?

Colossians 1:5

⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel...



“Since Providence, which has ordered all things and is deeply interested in our life, has set in most perfect order by giving us Augustus, whom she filled with virtue that he might benefit humankind, sending him as a savior...[and] since the birthday of the god Augustus was the beginning of the gospel for the world...” –Calendar Inscription of Priene

Danger #1: Under-emphasize the “Already” of our Gospel moment

Danger #2: Under-emphasize the “Not-Yet” of our Gospel moment

What's the game plan?

Colossians 1:9

⁹ And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him:

Colossians 1:10

...bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Colossians 1:11

¹¹ being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;

Colossians 1:12-13

¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.