

“Confidence for the Confused”

Colossians 1:20-23

The false teachers in Colossae had introduced so much confusion in the church that the believers there could no longer be sure about who they were, what was expected of them, or even where they were going... So

Paul seeks to give confidence to the confused by explaining what the work of Christ means to us in terms of identity and destination.

I. Alienation vs. 21

A. Two levels of Alienation

1. Ethnicity
2. Sin

B. We were alienated by wrong thinking that lead to evil behavior

II. Reconciliation vss. 20-22

A. Jesus’ death on the cross was the sacrifice that accomplished reconciliation

B. All things, including creation, have been reconciled

C. While reconciliation has been made, it is not automatic– it must be received by faith

III. Continuation vss. 22-23

A. “If you continue in faith” here is not a threat that you could lose your salvation

B. Continuation means we “stay put in faith”

C. Faith that continues is proven to be genuine, saving faith

IV. Glorification vs. 22

A. Those with continuing faith have one final destination: Glory

B. He will present us to Himself as Holy, blameless, perfect, and transformed

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