



[FILL 'ER UP, JESUS]

A STUDY IN COLOSSIANS

“I Could Have Been a Contender”
The Vineyard Church of Conroe
Raymond McDonald
June 28, 2015

Sermon Outline Notes

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. *John 10:10*

Jesus CONTENDS FOR HIS PEOPLE

AND Fills Us Up TO CONTEND FOR OTHERS

But this is what the LORD says: “Yes, captives will be taken from warriors, and plunder retrieved from the fierce; I will contend with those who contend with you, and your children I will save. *Isaiah 49:25*

I. Colossians 1:24-27

²⁴ Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ’s afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. ²⁵ I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— ²⁶ the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord’s people. ²⁷ 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.

Contenders ARE THOSE WHO EMBRACE THE SUFFERING

OF AND FOR THE BROKEN AND THE OUTCAST

But the Pharisees and the men who taught the law for the Pharisees began to complain to Jesus’ followers, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”³¹ Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy people who need a doctor, but the sick. ³² I have not come to invite good people but sinners to change their hearts and lives.” Luke 5:30-32 NCV

II. Colossians 1:28-29

²⁸ He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. ²⁹ To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

Contenders PROCLAIM, ADMONISH, AND TEACH WITH THE POWER OF CHRIST

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” *Matthew 28:19-20*

III. Colossians 2:1-5

^{2:1} I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally. ² My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. ⁴ I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments. ⁵ For though I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how disciplined you are and how firm your faith in Christ is.

Contenders FIGHT FOR UNITY AND KNOCK DOWN

BARRIERS INHIBITING THE FULL EXPERIENCE OF CHRIST

It is entirely for their benefit that I have set Myself apart so that they may be set apart by truth. ²⁰ I am not asking solely for their benefit; this prayer is also for all the believers who will follow them and hear them speak. ²¹ Father, may they all be one as You are in Me and I am in You; may they be in Us, for by this unity the world will believe that You sent Me. John 17:19-21 VOICE