

July 4, 2021

GREATER (Week 1 of 4)

Christ is the visible likeness of the invisible God.
Colossians 1:15a GNT

From Paul, who by God's will is an apostle of Christ Jesus, and from our brother Timothy—to God's people in Colossae, who are our faithful friends in union with Christ: May God our Father give you grace and peace. We always give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you. For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all God's people. When the true message, the Good News, first came to you, you heard about the hope it offers. So your faith and love are based on what you hope for, which is kept safe for you in heaven. The gospel keeps bringing blessings and is spreading throughout the world, just as it has among you ever since the day you first heard about the grace of God and came to know it as it really is. You learned of God's grace from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is Christ's faithful worker on our behalf. He has told us of the love that the Spirit has given you. Colossians 1:1–8 GNT

Greater hope produces...

- Greater _____

We always give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you. For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus... Colossians 1:3-4a GNT

- Greater _____

For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all of God's people. Colossians 1:4 NLT

- Greater _____

For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of God's people, which come from your confident hope of what God has reserved for you in heaven. You have had this expectation ever since you first heard the truth of the Good News. Colossians 1:4-5 NLT

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Christ is the visible likeness of the invisible God.
Colossians 1:15a GNT

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He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
Colossians 1:17 NIV

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And He is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. Colossians 1:18 ERV

And now I am happy about my sufferings for you, for by means of my physical sufferings I am helping to complete what still remains of Christ's sufferings on behalf of His body, the church. And I have been made a servant of the church by God, who gave me this task to perform for your good. It is the task of fully proclaiming His message, which is the secret He hid through all past ages from all human beings but has now revealed to His peoples. And the secret is that Christ is in you, which means that you will share in the glory of God. So we preach Christ to everyone. With all possible wisdom we warn and teach them in order to bring each one into God's presence as a mature individual in union with Christ. To get this done I toil and struggle, using the mighty strength which Christ supplies and which is at work in me.
Colossians 1:24-29 GNT

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