

## GLORIOUS RICHES

*Colossians 1:24 - 2:3*

Devotional Reading: Galatians 3:19 - 29

Background Scripture: Colossians 1:19 - 2:5

**LESSON AIMS:** the students will:

- Identify the “mystery”
- Explain why Paul discusses the “mystery”
- State a way to pass along spiritual comfort that he or she once received during a time of distress

**INTRODUCTION:** Paul was under house arrest in Rome. Some destructive teachings had come into the young church. The church in the city of Colossae was dealing with the issue of false beliefs. The problem was an issue Jewish legalism, which made the observation of Jewish practices like circumcision [Colossians 2:11], festivals, and dietary laws [Colossians 2:16] mandatory for Gentile believers. Paul stressed that Christ provided all of the understanding, mysteries, and hidden treasures of wisdom [Colossians 2:2 - 3]. Paul combats the Colossians heresy by emphasizing the supremacy and complete sufficiency of Christ while at the same time denouncing human philosophies and proving that they are inadequate.

**KEY VERSE** <sup>2</sup> *That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;*

<sup>3</sup> *In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*

*Colossians 2:2 – 3 / KJV*

**LESSON:**

Paul’s Statue

Colossians 1:24

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Paul’s Intent

Colossians 1:25 - 29

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Paul’s Labor

Colossians 2:1 - 3

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**SUMMARY:** Paul wrote this letter from prison in Rome [Acts 28:16 - 31] and is, therefore, referred to as a Prison Epistle, along with Ephesians, Philippians, and Philemon.] Paul tells the church that the goal of his letter is for the Colossians to know the mystery of God, Christ. To know *about* Christ is to know facts and information. To *know* Christ means to have a personal relationship with him. Knowing Christ is informative; if your knowledge isn’t transformative, you don’t truly know Jesus.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. *What do Paul’s words in 2 Corinthians 12:1 – 10 suggest about enduring suffering?*
2. *What is the difference between preaching and teaching? What are the overlaps between them?*
3. *What is your goal when contending for other believers?*

**GLORIOUS RICHES**  
*Colossians 1:24 - 23*

DAY / DATE	SCRIPTURE	
<i>Mon., May 27<sup>th</sup></i>	God’s Witnesses	Isaiah 43:8 - 13
<i>Tue., May 28<sup>th</sup></i>	Praise the Lord!	Psalms 113
<i>Wed., May 29<sup>th</sup></i>	God’s Children Through Faith	Galatians 3:19 - 29
<i>Thurs., May 30<sup>th</sup></i>	The Lord’s Blessing Makes Rich	Proverbs 10:19 - 25
<i>Fri., May 31<sup>st</sup></i>	Your Treasure is with Your Heart	Matthew 6:19 - 24
<i>Sat., June 1<sup>st</sup></i>	Seek First God’s Kingdom	Matthew 6:25 - 34
<i>Sun., June 2<sup>nd</sup></i>	Christ, the Most Precious Gift	Colossians 1:24 - 2:3