

THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS

“Apostolic Ministry”

Colossians 1:28, 29

ue is the “body” which is the “church” (vv. 18, 24). This is a n the nation Israel (cf. 1 Cor. 10:32).

affirms that Paul “became” a minister of the church. Nowhere is s relationship with Israel! Rather, what he could claim as a Jew, to win Christ (Phil. 3:4-8).

ster” of the body, the church, Paul asserted “the dispensation of stery” which had been hidden, “but now made manifest” (vv. 25,

is view organism is “Christ in you, the hope of glory” (v. 27). of Christ, the Holy Spirit directed Paul to write a statement about ere is a page out of his workbook. Here is an evaluation of the ities. Mark it well because it is a statement of the “how to” for ry.” Study these six characteristics recorded:

nd by the relative pronoun “whom.” While the immediate context v. 27), the general context expands the thought. Paul’s ministry s God (v. 15), Creator (v. 16), sustainer (v. 17), Head (v. 18), onciler (vv. 20-22). The apostle scored correctly in accenting the - not ethics, law, etc. What an emphasis -- sorely needed today!

AL

personal pronoun “we” is used with the present tense verb. the habit of Paul to keep on preaching. The verb is intensive claim or herald. It is variously translated (cf. Acts 13:5; 16:17; e main verb of the text. Whatever others do, Paul makes it crystal ies the Person of Christ. Apparently Timothy, Epaphras, and the same. They are a noble group and need to be emulated (cf. 1

NAL

t participles explain the main verb “preach.” Consider life-long

onal

conveyed by the verb “warning.” It is derived from a verb e mind to.” There is an appeal to the “mind,” hence it seeks to ind -- real repentance! The verb is found elsewhere in the N.T. less. 5:12, 14; 2 Thess. 3:15). Here is unabashed correction by

n verb for “teaching” is emphasized. It is the same verb as Mt.

28:20. Since this word connotes something didactic, the obvious belief. The Pastoral Epistles (1, 2 Tim. and Titus) are a good study the importance of sound teaching.

Note: The above two participles are qualified by two additional

a. “Every man.” This is a universal singular. No intellectu suggested. All are to receive what is listed here. All are expected and educated!

b. “In all wisdom.” The singular for “all” conveys every ki effort is to be spared to get the message across, so writes Paul by is what he did; it is a role model for all in the ministry.

4. DIRECTIONAL

The purpose clause introduced by “that” points to a specific evident elsewhere in the N.T. (Acts 23:33; Ro. 6:13, 16; 12 “perfection,” a word which in this context means to get a believe Novices in Bible doctrine are not God’s norm. Paul’s goal in fully initiate his converts. The sphere in which this perfection is Jesus.” What an exalted good -- fully grown believers (cf. 1 Cor 4:13).

5. PRACTICAL

Now Paul states the lengths to which he goes to get the result have. Look at it!!

a. “Laboring”

The particle “also” shows Paul goes beyond “warning,” “presenting.” He really gives it all he has (cf. 2 Cor. 6:5). The ap “wear out” then “rust out.” The verb is present active indicativ

b. Striving

Being a present middle participle, this verb expresses practiced. It is used of games, sports (cf. 1 Cor. 9:25; Coil. 4 6:12). For Paul, the “ministry” was exhausting, but not fatigui

6. MEASURABLE

Nothing can be more powerful than the last portion of t methodology which counts but the working (energizing) of the (cf. vv. 27, 28). Utter dependence upon divine power is what preposition “according to” states. While in no v responsibility/accountability, the servants of God cannot be den 13).

Think it over

This is straight Bible. If you really want to evaluate, give a score you must do it according to the criteria recorded. If you test a m you better do it God’s way! There is no room here for moven carried on in God’s way will never lack God’s blessing. Amen