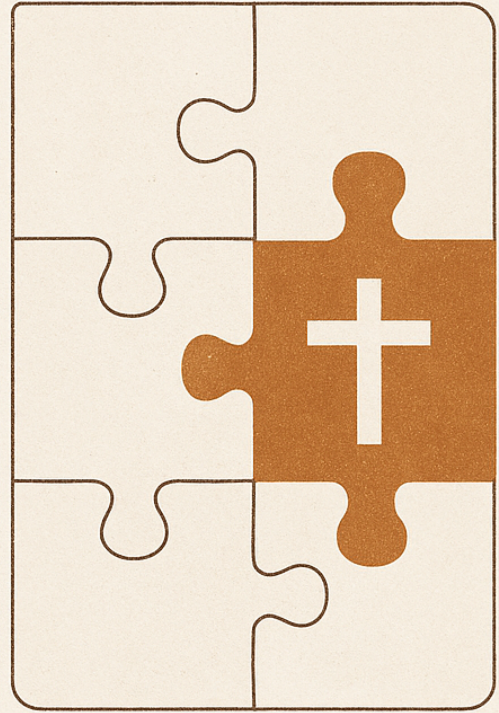


COMPLETE IN CHRIST

A STUDY THROUGH COLOSSIANS



03: The Mystery Revealed

Colossians 1:24-2:5

Series: *Complete In Christ*

Steve Ellis | October 12, 2025

Introduction

In [Colossians 1:24-2:5](#), our passage today, Paul uses the language of a mystery. He speaks of a mystery that was once concealed, but now has come into full view through Jesus.

Sharing in Christ's Sufferings

Colossians 1:24-25

"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. I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness" (NIV)¹

notes:

The Mystery Hidden but Now Revealed

Colossians 1:26–27

“the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord’s people. 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.”

How will God bring all nations into that blessing?

Proclaiming Christ with Purpose

Colossians 1:28

“He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.”

Paul’s mission is clear: proclaim Christ until every person becomes complete.

And notice his passion:

Colossians 1:29

“To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.”

The Struggle for the Church’s Encouragement

Colossians 2:1–2a

“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. 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...”

Paul’s heart is pastoral:

Colossians 2:2–4

“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, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments.”

notes:

Paul ends this section with joy:

Colossians 2:5

“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.”

The Story Thread

What is the story Paul is telling:

- Paul, through his _____, carries on the _____ of the Messiah.
- The _____ plan of God has come to _____, that His presence now dwells in His people.
- The goal of the gospel isn’t simply belief, but _____, _____, and _____ in Christ.
- The secret wisdom the world chases has already been _____ in Jesus.

The Takeaway

The mystery of the gospel is not something you discover, it’s Someone who dwells within you.

Christ in you, the hope of glory.

notes:

Endnotes:

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