

Message Two

One Person—the All-inclusive Christ

Scripture Reading: Col. 1:9, 12, 15-18, 27; 2:2, 8-9, 16-17; 3:4, 10-11, 15

- I. The will of God is in Christ, concentrated in Christ, and for Christ; Christ is everything in the will of God—1:9.**
- II. The Christ unveiled in Colossians is the all-inclusive, extensive, preeminent One, the centrality and universality of God's economy—vv. 15-18, 27; 2:16-17; 3:4, 10-11:**
 - A. Colossians reveals the all-inclusive Christ—the One who is God, man, and the reality of every positive thing in the universe—2:9, 16-17.
 - B. For Christ to be the Firstborn of both the original creation and the new creation means that He is both all-inclusive and extensive—1:15, 18.
 - C. Christ is the preeminent One, the One who has the first place in everything—Col. 1:18.
 - D. The all-inclusive, extensive Christ is the centrality and universality, the center and circumference, of God's economy—Matt. 17: 5; Col. 1:15-27; Eph. 1:10.
- III. The will of God is that the all-inclusive, extensive Christ be our portion—Col. 1:9, 12:**
 - A. In 1:9 God's will refers to Christ; the will of God is profound in relation to our knowing, experiencing, and living the all-inclusive, extensive Christ.
 - B. God's will is that we know Christ, experience Christ, enjoy Christ, be saturated with Christ, and have Christ become our life and person—3:4.
- IV. The all-inclusive, extensive Christ dwells in us as our hope of glory—Col. 1:27.**
- V. The all-inclusive, extensive Christ is our life—Col. 3:4:**
 - A. The expression *our life* is a strong indication that we are to experience the all-inclusive Christ, the One who is the reality of every positive thing—2:16-17.
 - B. Because Christ is our life, all He has and all He has attained and obtained become subjective to us—Rom. 8:34, 10.
- VI. The all-inclusive, extensive Christ is the unique constituent of the one new man—Col. 3:10-11:**
 - A. The content of the church as the new man is Christ alone; in the new man there is room only for Christ, for He is everyone and in everyone.
 - B. In the church as the new man we are in Christ, through Christ, and unto Christ, and we subsist in Christ to be God's expression in Christ—1:16-17.
- VII. The all-inclusive, extensive Christ is our peace— v. 20; 3:15.**