

When Jesus had finished these parables, he moved on from them. Coming to his hometown, he began teaching the people in their synagogue, and they were amazed, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers?" they asked. "Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother's name Mary, and aren't his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Judas?" "And how can all this happen with us?" Where then did this man get all these things?" "And they took offense at him, but Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town and in his own home." And he did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.

THE CONNECTION THAT COUNTS

Paul's Letter to the Colossians



Colossians 1:24-29

²⁴ Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body, which is the church, in filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions.

Colossians 1:24-29

²⁵ *Of this church* I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the *preaching of the word of God,*

Colossians 1:24-29

²⁶ *that is*, the mystery which has been hidden from the *past* ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints,

Colossians 1:24-29

²⁷ to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Colossians 1:24-29

²⁸ We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.

Colossians 1:24-29

²⁹ For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.

He Possesses A Perspective on God-Designed Suffering (Lamentations 3:37-38)

³⁷ Who is there who speaks and it comes to pass, unless the Lord has commanded *it*? ³⁸ *Is it not* from the mouth of the Most High that both good and ill go forth?

He Possesses A Perspective on God-Designed Suffering (Lamentations 3:37-38)

³⁷ Who is there who speaks and it comes to pass,
unless the Lord has commanded *it*? ³⁸ *Is it not*
from the mouth of the Most High that both good
and ill go forth?

“We are always in the forge, or on the anvil;
by trials God is shaping us for higher things.”
(H. W. Beecher)

“It is the crushed grape that yields the wine.”

“Smooth seas do not make skillful sailors.”
(Hudson Taylor).

“At the timberline where the storms strike with
the most fury, the sturdiest trees are found”
(Hudson Taylor).

Colossians 1:24

²⁴ Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body, which is the church, in filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions.

Colossians 1:24

²⁴ Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body, which is the church, in filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions.

He Possesses A Perspective on God-Declared Selection (Colossians 1:25)

²⁵ Of this church I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God,

He Possesses A Perspective on God-Declared Selection (Colossians 1:25)

²⁵ Of this church I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God,

- It is honey to the spiritual taste buds
(Psalm 19:9-10)
- It is a lamp to the dark path of life
(Psalm 119:105, 130)

- It is milk to a spiritual baby
(1 Cor. 3:1-3)
- It is a mirror that shows you the real
spiritual you (James 1:23-25)

- It is the meat that feeds the mature spiritual person (Heb. 5:11-14)
- It is a powerful sword you use to teach truth and counter falsity (Eph. 6:17)

2 Timothy 4:2-4

² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

2 Timothy 4:2-4

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,

2 Timothy 4:2-4

⁴ and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

Colossians 1:26-27

²⁶ *that is*, the mystery which has been hidden from the *past* ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints,

Colossians 1:26-27

²⁷ to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

He Possesses A Perspective on God-Declared Purpose (Colossians 1:28)

²⁸ We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.

He Possesses A Perspective on God-Declared Purpose (Colossians 1:28)

²⁸ We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.

- You are in the Word without prompting.
- You are convicted by sin, and you confess it.

- You see truths in your study that you need to work on.
- You put off your old sinful ways, while you put on the character that pleases God.

- You seek the Spirit's filling or control for each new day (Eph. 5:18).
- You are in worship more often than not (Heb. 10:24-25).

- You are serving somewhere in the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12).
- You have an active prayer life, especially in private.

He Possesses A Perspective on God-Designed Power (Colossians 1:29)

²⁹ For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.

He Possesses A Perspective on God-Designed Power (Colossians 1:29)

²⁹ For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.

When Jesus had finished these parables, he moved on from there. Coming to his hometown, he began teaching the people in their synagogue, and they were amazed, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers?" they asked. "Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother's name Mary, and aren't his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Judas?" "Where then did this man get all these things?" "And they took offense at him." But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town and in his own home." And he did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.

THE CONNECTION THAT COUNTS

Paul's Letter to the Colossians

