

# The Hope of Glory

**Colossians 1:27** (NKJV) – To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Many people have quoted this verse – especially the section I have underlined – and declared a wide variety of meanings from it. This has created much confusion, because just quoting scripture and saying that it means literally what it says in our English translation doesn't mean our statement is perfectly in line with the Heart of God on the matter.

To help understand what Paul was trying to convey from his Hebrew mindset, rather than from our English which was translated from the ancient Greek, a look at a number of other translations which incorporate an understanding of ancient Greek and Hebrew idioms and turns of phrase will help. The verses 25 to 27 will help to keep it in context.

**Colossians 1:25-27** (PHILLIPS) – For I am a minister of the Church by divine commission, a commission granted to me for your benefit and for a special purpose: that I might fully declare God's word—that sacred mystery which up to now has been hidden in every age and every generation, but which is now as clear as daylight to those who love God. They are those to whom God has planned to give a vision of the full wonder and splendour of his secret plan for the sons of men. And the secret is simply this: Christ in you! Yes, Christ in you bringing with him the hope of all glorious things to come.

**Colossians 1:25-27** (AMP) – In it I became a minister in accordance with the divine stewardship<sup>1</sup> which was entrusted to me for you [as its object and for your benefit], to make the Word of God fully known [among you]—the mystery of which was hidden for ages and generations [from angels and men]<sup>2</sup>, but is now revealed to His holy people (the saints), to whom God was pleased to make known how great for the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ within *and* among you, the Hope of [realizing the] glory.

It may still be 'clear as mud' to you after reading the J.B. Phillips and Amplified versions, but it should help to reinforce how we state scripture and declare means form it with perfect accuracy.

Laurence

19-6-2015

*(errors corrected 23-3-2020)*

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1 – Marvin Vincent, *Word Studies*.

2 – Johann Bengel, *Gnomon Novi Testamenti* and Henry Alford, *The Greek New Testament*.