

A Different Take On: 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 what it means – i.e. literally what it says in our English translation – doesn't mean our statement is perfectly in line with the Father's heart on the matter.

To help understand what Paul was trying to convey from his Hebrew mindset, rather than trying to interpret what was translated from the ancient Koine Greek into English in most Bibles, a look at a number of different translations which incorporate an understanding of ancient Greek and Hebrew idioms, as well as turns of phrase, will help our understanding. In addition, the context of verses 25 to 27 will also be an aid.

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 stewardship¹ 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]², 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.***

Colossians 1:25-27 (MIRROR)³ – *I am an administrator in God's economy; my mission is to make his word known to you with utmost clarity. Mankind's most sought after quest, the mystery which has remained elusive and concealed for ages and generations, is now fully realized in our redeemed innocence. (The word, ἁγνός *hagnos*, 'clean', 'blameless innocence'.)⁴ Within us, God is delighted to exhibit the priceless treasure of **this glorious unveiling of Christ's indwelling** in order that every person on the planet, whoever they are, may now come to the greatest discovery of all time and recognize Christ in them as in a mirror. He is the desire⁵ of the nations and completes their every expectation. (He is not hiding in history, or in outer space, nor in the future, neither in the pages of scripture, he is merely mirrored there to be unveiled within you. Matthew 13:44, Galatians 1:15, 16, 2 Corinthians 3:18, 2 Corinthians 4:4,7. This is huge. What God was now able to disclose in the saints is immediately equally relevant in the nations. Christ in the nations is the hope of glory. This is the mystery of the ages. This is what we were waiting for. Haggai 2:6,7.⁵)*

So, it's **not** our hope of glory sometime in the future when we go to Heaven and receive glorified bodies. NO! The glory is here right now, and it's in us. It's the Spirit's presence in our bodies that Paul was referring to. This glory was the hope of ancient Israelis, and it came into realization with the work of the cross.

There's no longer any need to hope for glory, it has arrived.

1 – Marvin Vincent, *Word Studies*.

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

3 – Scripture taken from THE MIRROR. Copyright © 2012. Used by permission of the author. [Mirror Bible www.mirrorword.net]

4 – Grey text is inline commentary by the MIRROR author

5 – Grey text is inline commentary by the MIRROR author

It may still be ‘clear as mud’ to you after reading the MIRROR, J.B. Phillips and Amplified versions of the verse, but it should help to reinforce how we state scripture and declare meanings from it, always with what we consider to be perfect accuracy.

Believe It or Not!

The choice is yours

Whatever you choose to believe won't negatively impact Father's relationship with you

Laurence

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(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document)