



Getting Right to the Gospel!

April 30, 2023 – Col. 1:3-14

Pastor Jon Pickens

Paul's Thanksgiving

1. Paul is following a standard **Greco-Roman** letter writing style.
2. Paul creatively uses the thanksgiving aspect of his letter to get right to the **Gospel**.

Paul's Prayer

1. His prayer is that they would truly know and understand the **will** of God.
2. The reason for his prayer is so that their **lives** would reflect God.
3. Four ways to walk in a way that pleases God:
 - a. Walk in sincere **obedience**!
 - b. Walk with a hunger to **know** God more!
 - c. Walk in the **strength** of Christ!
 - d. Walk with a heart of **gratitude** toward God.

The Gospel of Redeeming Love

1. You have been **rescued**, renewed, and redeemed!

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Colossians 1:3-8. What do you learn about the Gospel from those verses?
2. How would you explain the biblical use of the word “hope” to someone who is not a Christian?
3. Read Colossians 1:9-12. If Paul was praying this way for you, how would it encourage you?
4. How is God’s will knowable and how do you discern it?
5. Pastor Jon mentioned four aspects of walking in a manner worthy of the Lord. Which of those did you find most meaningful to you?
6. Read Col. 1:12-14. How does this passage encourage your heart?
7. What action are you going to do as a result of the message?

Next Steps:

1. If you would like to become a follower of Jesus, please let us know. Pastor Jon will be in the room behind the Welcome Center after the service.
2. If you are interested in baptism, let Pastor Jon know in person or email him at pj@fbclowell.org.
3. Consider joining an elective. They meet most Sundays at 11am.
4. Read the Bible with us to know God and respond to Him! Below is our current schedule.

May 2023 (Two Year Reading Plan, Month 17)				
Week 1 Starting May 1	Week 2 Starting May 8	Week 3 Starting May 15	Week 4 Starting May 22	Week 3 Starting May 15
Day 1: 2 Chronicles 33	Day 1: Ezra 6-7	Day 1: Nehemiah 5-6	Day 1: Esther 1-2	Day 1: Job 3-5
Day 2: 2 Chronicles 34-35	Day 2: Ezra 8	Day 2: Nehemiah 7-8	Day 2: Esther 3-4	Day 2: Job 6-9
Day 3: 2 Chronicles 36, Ezra 1	Day 3: Ezra 9-10	Day 3: Nehemiah 9	Day 3: Esther 5-7	Day 3: Job 10-12
Day 4: Ezra 2-3	Day 4: Nehemiah 1-2	Day 4: Nehemiah 10-11	Day 4: Esther 8-10	Day 4: Job 13-16
Day 5: Ezra 4-5	Day 5: Nehemiah 3-4	Day 5: Nehemiah 12-13	Day 5: Job 1-2	Day 5: Job 17-19
<p>⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”</p> <p>⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.</p> <p>¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes,</p> <p>¹¹ and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Acts 1:8-11 (ESV)</p>				

What are you going to do as a result of the message this morning?