

C. The hope of wealth and glory that wisdom promises:

- i. We saw in vs. 15-20, that Jesus is the personal, incarnate Wisdom of God—the image of God.
  
- ii. In Christ Jesus are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge!

### LIVE THE STORY

*We must not only love the Gospel Story, we must begin to live the Gospel Story, indeed, to have the Central Character live in us.*

- Why do you think Paul could say he was a servant of the Gospel and a servant of the church at the same time? Can we be servants of the Gospel without serving the church?
- What are you most willing to sacrifice and suffer for... and rejoice to do so? Are you gladly willing to suffer loss for the sake of the Gospel?
- Why can examining your life to see what you are serving with your life and resources help reveal where your hopes for future glory lie?
- Are you gladly willing to endure wrongs in order to reflect the glory of Christ as you entrust yourself to the Father who judges justly? Is this a perspective you should embrace?
- We serve whatever we hope will bring us glory. We serve our ambitions. Is Christ in you and others your glorious ambition?
- Do you gladly give sacrificially for the advance of the Gospel?
- Ty Cobb is credited with saying, “*The quest for glory is not a sin.*” Is this true or false? What makes this true or false?
- Why is it important to have a right ambition rather than just not having selfish ambition? Is it possible to just “not have selfish ambition”?

### Enslaved by the Right Ambition

Jerry Cisar—November 29, 2009

Text: Colossians 1:24—2:5

#### Introduction: What is Your Ambition?...Your Hope of Glory?

- A. Paul was a servant of the Gospel, and therefore a servant of the church.

Paul's *readiness to even rejoicing in* suffering grows out of His passion for the Gospel.

- B. Whose servant are you?

- C. We serve whatever we hope will bring us glory.

#### I. Don't Exchange Your *Hope of Glory*!

- A. The **story of Israel** is a story of exchanging real glory for a cheap substitute.
  - i. Psalm 106:20-22
  
  - ii. Jeremiah 2:11-12

B. The **story of mankind** is a story of exchanging real glory for a cheap substitute.

i. Romans 1:21-25

ii. *When we exchange the glory of God, we change what we worship and serve.*

C. Paul's concern for the Colossians

i. 2:4 Paul was concerned that they might be deluded, led astray to something other than the wealth of glory held out in the Gospel..

ii. **Tell them what?** 2:3

## II. What is *the hope of Glory*?

A. Adam made in *the image and glory of God*.

i. Psalm 8

ii. Genesis 6:5

iii. A hope of restoration of man to this glory.

B. The Temple and the Hope of Glory

i. 2 Chronicles 7:1-3

ii. Ezekiel 10

C. Wisdom's promise to bring wealth and glory.

i. 1:27 The wealth, the riches of this mystery...

a) **Riches** and **glory** are the hope held out for why we should pursue Wisdom!

➤ Proverbs 8:18

➤ Proverbs 3:16

➤ Proverbs 22:4

ii. *Capture Wisdom and you'll capture wealth and glory; so seek Wisdom.*

D. These 3 categories for "hope of glory" all come together in Jesus Christ in you!

## III. Christ is *the Hope of Glory* Christ is the right ambition!

A. Jesus Christ perfectly restores man as the image of God.

i. 2 Corinthians 4:4-6

ii. 1 Corinthians 15:49

iii. Colossians 3:9-11

B. New Temple/Tabernacle

i. John 1:14

ii. Ephesians 2:21-22

iii. **Christ and Christ in you** is the restoration of the glory of God upon His temple.

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i. We saw in vs. 15-20, that Jesus is the personal, incarnate Wisdom of God—the image of God.

ii. In Christ Jesus are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge!