

Sermon Notes Ps Frank Stockley 11.10.09

Key passage: Colossians 1:1-14 – blessing in the form of greeting.

Colossians 1:9-14 Living Bible

The kingdom of God is effective through fellowships, but vitally effective outside the 'house' as Christians are employed; i.e. payed by an employer to serve the Lord as we live by example; live as ambassadors for Christ as people with wise minds attuned to His will.

1. Know God wants us to work

Romans 12:2 speaks of a good, acceptable and pleasing will for **me** (each individual must want this; be listening to the One who comes alongside – prepared to listen to what we don't like to hear as well 😊) Must be careful in listening to others (their ideas of what we should do) and of course the devil. Wise minds; spirits attuned to His will.

2. Know and have understanding of the ways God works (Proverbs 3:5-6... in all our ways acknowledge Him and He will direct our paths). Psalm 19:7-11, 14

See verse 11: each servant rewarded (this is each one)

Verse 14

We must watch what we say. God works. Our words must be right (not damaging); our words are guarded by our heart so the state of our heart determines our words.

3. Live well for the Master. Make Him proud of you as you work hard in His orchard. We are strengthened for patience and endurance; to stick it out for the long haul – not gritting our teeth sort of strength but the glory He gives... so often we bathe in our inadequacies instead of what we can do (which is what we are asked) in the glory of God.

Strength – endures the unendurable and spills over into joy.

Don't allow the things of life rob you of what God wants you to do.

Col 1:13-14: He has rescued us, delivered us from dead-end alleys and dark dungeons (we were all there once) He has set us up in the Kingdom of the Son of His love; in the Son He loves so much. If we are born again we are part of His Kingdom; the kingdom of God; the Kingdom of heaven here on earth – this is a 'wonder-full' truth. Must recognise and understand who we are. Give ourselves 100% to our work.

The Kingdom of the Son He loves so much; we are redeemed, set free of the sins we were doomed to keep repeating. If our 'problems' stop us going on in God, we are failing what God has for us in the Kingdom. We can overcome.

Numbers 6:22-26