

Reconciled to God.
Sunday, June 19th, 2022
Pastor Audie Clairmont

Colossians 1:21-23-NKJV

Col 1:21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled

Col 1:22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—

Col 1:23 if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Ephesians 4:24-Passion

And to be transformed as you **embrace the glorious Christ-within** as your new life and **live in union with him!** For God has **re-created you all over again** in his perfect righteousness, and you now belong to him in the realm of true holiness.

Believe - True faith (Gr. *pistis*) - **acceptance, embracing something (someone) as truth, union with God and his Word, and an inner confidence that God alone is enough.**

Regeneration – which is the Divine act which *imparts* to the repentant believer **the new and higher life in personal union with Jesus the Messiah.**

Regeneration includes:

- A **birth**: being *born of the Spirit, born from above*, - John 3:6,7
- A **Cleansing**: God saved us by the “washing” of regeneration. – Titus 3:5,6.
- A **quicken**: the renewing of the Holy Spirit. Eph. 4:23, Rom. 12:2, Col. 3:10, Ps. 51:10
- A **creation**: recreates us by the operation of the Holy Spirit – 2 Cor. 5:17, Eph. 2:10, Gal. 6:15, Eph. 4:24.
- A **resurrection**: God quickens a soul dead in sins and makes it alive to the realities of the Spiritual world. Rom. 6:4, Col.2:13, 3:1, Eph. 2:5-6.

Christ's call is to take up our cross

Mark 8:34-35-Passion

34 Jesus summoned the crowd, along with his disciples, and had them gather around. And he said to them: “If you truly want to follow me, you should at once completely **disown your own life**. And **you must be willing to share my cross and experience it as your own**, as you **continually surrender to my ways**.

35 For if you let your life go for my sake and for the sake of the gospel, **you will continually experience true life**. But if you choose **to keep your life for yourself, you will forfeit** what you try to keep.

Col 3:3 Your crucifixion with Christ has severed **the tie to this life, and now your true life is hidden away in God in Christ.**

Col 3:4 And as Christ himself is seen for who he really is, **who you really are will also be revealed, for you are now one with him in his glory!**

Verse 23 - ...if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard...

Passion - ...if indeed you continue to advance in faith, assured of a firm foundation to grow upon. Never be shaken from the hope of the gospel you have believed in.

grounded or established is the **initial experience of new birth**, and **steadfast or firm** relates to the **ongoing process of sanctification**, which is the proof of a changed life.

James 1:2-Passion

2 My fellow believers, when it seems as though you are facing ***nothing, but difficulties*** see it as an invaluable opportunity to experience the greatest joy that you can!

3 For you know that when your faith is tested ***it stirs up power within you to endure all things.***

4 ***And then as your endurance grows even stronger it will release perfection into every part of your being until there is nothing missing and nothing lacking.***

Perseverance is the outworking of **becoming firm.**