



Scripture for the week of March 14, 202: Colossians 1:13-23

“¹³ For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. ²¹ Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. ²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— ²³ if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.”

Sunday, March 14:

Scripture: Read above Scripture slowly (even if it is very familiar to you).

Questions: What stood out for you as you read this Scripture? What do you hope to be reminded of as you focus on this Scripture this week? Will you be open to learn what Jesus did for you as we walk through this time of Lent? Do you think this could be life changing?

Prayer: Lord, I am willing to be open to what You desire to show me this week. Let me be more thankful for who You are and find more time to praise You for Your goodness and love.

Monday, March 15:

Scripture: Colossians 1:13-14: “¹³ For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

Questions: Do you see that you have been rescued from the darkness? Are you thankful for this? Do you see that in Him, we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins? Isn’t this something you should be thankful for too? Don’t you think that these are great reminders of what has been done on your behalf?

Prayer: Lord God, thank you for this reminder that You have sent Your Son to rescue us from the dominion of darkness and that in Him, we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. I praise You this day for what You have been doing in my life and ask that I may continue to be in a time of thankfulness during this week of discovering all that You have done for me.

Tuesday, March 16:

Scripture: Colossians 1:15-16: “¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.”

Questions: Do you see that God is fully revealed in Jesus? Can you think of it as thanking God and when you do that, you also can’t help but thank Jesus, who is our great Redeemer? How does it make you feel to know that Christ has authority over all things? One commentary says that since Jesus is the firstborn and the heir of all things that He is like our older brother. How does that make you feel?

Prayer: Jesus, deepen my relationship with You so that I can, through You, know the Father better. Let it sink in deep that we are related and that I too am entitled to a great inheritance. Let this be such a part of me that I can't help but want to spend more time in Your presence.

Wednesday, March 17:

Scripture: Colossians 1:17: "17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

Questions: How does it make you feel to know that Christ has authority over all things both in heaven and on earth? Do you know what authority you have? Did you remember that Mark 16:17-18 says that "These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they will speak in new languages. They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won't hurt them. They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed."? Don't you think it is interesting that today, on St. Patrick's day, legend tells us that St. Patrick banished all the snakes from Ireland? Do you think He was given this authority by Jesus?

Prayer: Lord, I want to better understand the authority You have given me through my belief in Christ. Then I want to be bold and use that authority. Help me understand this better Lord so that I can take the authority You have given me and reveal it to others in Your name.

Thursday, March 18:

Scripture: Colossians 1:18-19: "18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,"

Questions: Did you know that Christ as the head, works through His church today? Are you trying to live as Christ did so that others will see Christ in our lives? Do you think that others can see Christ in our church? Do you know that through the Holy Spirit living in us and filling us, that we too can possess the fullness that was given to Christ? Do you recognize this as the qualities of God, such as love, light, truth, power wisdom, holiness....?

Prayer: Jesus, it is overwhelming to think that others might be looking at me and our church to see how we behave as Christians. Let me be Your light so that they too will want to come to know You. Help our church to be welcoming and able to show Your light to those hurting and afraid.

Friday, March 19:

Scripture: Colossians 1:20-21: "20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. 21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior."

Questions: Do you see this as another confirmation that through Christ's death on the cross God transferred the punishment for our sins to Christ so that we who believe in Him are no longer held guilty but have received forgiveness for our sins? Do you see that we were once alienated from God? Do you know what the solution is?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you that through You I can be set free from my sins. Help me to see that when I sin I am alienated from God but that there is a way to be reconciled with Him. Remind me of this daily especially as we walk through this season of Lent.

Saturday, March 21:

Scripture: Colossians 1:22-23: "22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— 23 if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant."

Questions: Do you recognize the importance of a relationship with Christ? Don't you want to be presented to God as holy and without blemish? Do you see that this is not something we do only once but that we must continue to be established and firm in our faith for Christ to continually reconcile us with the Father?

Prayer: Jesus, as I continue to walk through this Lenten season, remind me frequently of the importance of repentance and that when I do this, I can be presented to God as holy and unblemished. Knowing this makes it easier to see myself as acceptable in Your sight.