

## WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR MAN

### Colossians 1:12-16

**Introduction:** Our text is one of the greatest passages in the New Testament for it presents a wonderful picture of Jesus Christ. It gives the full and final answer to all the false speculative teachings about Jesus. The text reveals three great things God has done for mankind and those three things are the points of this message.

#### I. GOD HAS GIVEN MANKIND (THE BELIEVER) AN INHERITANCE

1. To receive an inheritance, one must be prepared, qualified and fit.
  - God makes each recipient of His inheritance qualified.
2. The inheritance is shared with every believer who is also set apart in what God calls "light."
  - The plain fact is that "light" is the opposite of "darkness."
3. The inheritance God gives is:
  - Eternal life in God's Heaven.
  - Salvation, being freed from the world the flesh and the devil.
  - Abraham's promise of inheriting the world.
  - Glory, a brightness to honor God and all that is His.
  - Righteousness which a person cannot gain on his/own merits or efforts.
  - Grace, God's undeserved favor.
  - Special favor of God because one has become one of God's children, a part of God's family.
  - Reward which is undeserved.
  - An immortal and perfect physical body when the Lord Jesus Christ returns for His family.

#### II. GOD HAS REMOVED THE BELIEVER FROM THE POWER OF DARKNESS AND INTO HIS KINGDOM

1. There is a power of darkness.
  - There is such a kingdom, a world of darkness.
    - The kingdom is unable to be seen or known as to where, what or even who is in it.
    - The unbelievers do not know:
      - Who they are in God's sight.
      - Where they came from.
      - What their purpose on earth is for.
      - Where their eternal destination will be.
  - There is such a power of enslaving going on this very moment.
    - A kingdom and power against God.
    - Consider, "why would a rational person:"
      - Curse God, deny God, reject God
      - Hurt others, hurt him/herself
      - Ridicule, persecute and kill Christians

- No rational person would act so, unless he/she is/was enslaved by the power of darkness.
- 2. It is God, Himself, who has removed the believer from this "darkness."
  - Only until help comes can one in darkness be saved.
  - Only LIGHT can push away the darkness.
  - GOD ALONE IS LIGHT.
- 3. God sent His Son to Light up the "dark" world.
  - God's kingdom already existed.
  - God always has ruled everywhere.
  - God removes believers from the darkness and transfers them to His Kingdom of Light.

### **III. GOD REDEEMS AND FORGIVES THOSE WHO BELIEVE**

1. Through His Son Jesus Christ, God brings the believer out of slavery and darkness.
2. By His Son's blood the believer is cleansed and forgiven.
3. The believer's sins are released and sent away, never to return.
4. God sees the believer as being "His Son."
5. All who believe in Jesus Christ are adopted into God's Family.

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. This passage of scripture is one of the most revealing of all about what God has done for us.
2. We are born into slavery and in darkness but God will remove us from all of that through His Son.
3. Each person must decide for him/herself if he/she wants to be delivered from out of bondage, slavery and eternal darkness into God's light, into God's family, into God's eternal heaven.
4. What has been your choice?