

THE CONTEXT OF THE PASSAGE: STANDING FIRM 1:23

...²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard...

What specific threats do you see to you going on with Jesus?
How does the passage we've studied address those threats?
How does this study build on what we worked through in the last study?

SUMMARY

<i>He has brought us into his kingdom (13-14)</i>	He created the world He rescued the world He is the Lord of all (15-20)	<i>He has reconciled us to the king (21-22)</i>
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Preparation for next study:

- Read Colossians 1:1-2:7 and reread 1:23-2:7 twice
- Identify the repeated words, phrases and ideas in 1:23-2:7
- How would you summarise in a couple of sentences what this section is all about?
- Spend some time in prayer responding to Jesus about what you see in these verses

COLOSSIANS FOUNDATIONS

STUDY 2: COLOSSIANS 1:11-23 JESUS CHRIST IS LORD

Start by praying for your study

Feedback from Preparation:

What did identify as the repeated words, phrases and ideas in verses 15-20?
How did you summarise what today's passage is all about?

Read the following passage in the group:

Colossians 1:11-23 May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers, all things have been created through him and for him.¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things...

...whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him,²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

What stands out to you from these verses?

THE CONTEXT OF THE PASSAGE: ENDURING 1:11-12A

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

What does Paul want for the Colossians and what does he pray for?

JESUS HAS RESCUED US 1:13-14

¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

How would you describe in your own words what Jesus has done for us in these verses?

If this is true, what does this mean for our lives?

What's been your experience of these two kingdoms?

the power of darkness (13)	<i>He has rescued us ... and transferred us ... in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins (13-14)</i>	the kingdom of his beloved Son (13)
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JESUS IS LORD 1:15-20

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers, all things have been created through him and for him.¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

What do these verses tell us about Jesus?

What has Jesus done in these verses?

What do we learn about God's ultimate purposes?

What are the implications for our daily life?

JESUS HAS RECONCILED US 1:21-22

²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him

How would you describe in your own words what has Jesus done for us in these verses?

If this is true, what does this mean for our lives?

How has being reconciled to God changed your life?

estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, (21)	<i>he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death (22a)</i>	holy and blameless and irreproachable (22b)
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