

JESUS, CHILDREN, & SPECIAL NEEDS

The Story of Scripture, part 34

Colossians 1, ESV

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COLOSSIANS 1:15 - 23

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

WE ARE ALL FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE BY JESUS HIMSELF.

PSALM 139:13 - 14

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made . . .

COLOSSIANS 1:16

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him.

THOUGH THE PLAN OF OUR LIVES IS DIFFERENT, THE PURPOSE OF OUR LIVES IS THE SAME.

THE HOPE OF JESUS GUARANTEES THAT THIS FALLEN WORLD IS NOT THE FINAL WORD.

2 SAMUEL 12:23

Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me.



THE GLORY OF JESUS SPREADS THROUGH HIS JOY AND STRENGTH IN THE MIDDLE OF SUFFERING.

COLOSSIANS 1:24 - 29

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS COMPELS US TO TRUST HIM WITH HUMILITY AND SHARE HIM WITH URGENCY.

