

# From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory

## Colossians 1:23-24

10/05/14  
by Bob DeWaay

### From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory

Colossians 1:21-23

by Bob DeWaay  
Gospel of Grace Fellowship

October 5, 2014

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Alienated and Hostile to God

Colossians 1:21a (ESV)

And you, who once were **alienated** and **hostile** in **mind** . . .

- “Alienated” is also found in Ephesians 2:12
- The same Greek word is used in Psalm 57:4 (LXX) which is Psalm 58:3 NASB
- “Hostile” denotes “a conscious antagonism to the only true God” (Obrien, Word)
- Our hostility was expressed in our thinking

From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory: Colossians 1:21-232

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Hostility of Mind Leads to Evil Works

Colossians 1:21b (ESV)

hostile in mind, **doing evil deeds**

- These evil works include the whole person – mind and body
- Evil works are what being alienated from God looks like – James 4:4
- These are also called, “works of darkness” Rom. 13:12, Eph 5:11

From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory: Colossians 1:21-233

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



# From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory

## Colossians 1:23-24

10/05/14  
by Bob DeWaay

### Reconciled to God

Colossians 1:22a (ESV)

[you] he **has now reconciled** in his body of flesh **by his death**

- The contrast between the hostile mind and reconciliation to God is stark
- Only God's grace could cause such a change
- We owe God our faith, trust, worship and gratitude
- "body of flesh" is a Hebraism for "physical body"
- He paid the penalty by dying for sins (1Peter 3:18a)

From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory: Colossians 1:21-23

4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Presented to God, Blameless

Colossians 1:22b (ESV)

in order to **present** you **holy** and **blameless** and **above reproach before** him

- The Greek word translated "present" is used in the Bible for "present before God" – Eph 5:27; 2Cor. 11:2; 2Cor. 4:14
- "holy, blameless, above reproach" all start with alpha in the Greek – an alliteration
- "before Him" means "in the very presence of" – Jude 1:24; Eph 1:4
- Because of Christ all of this is true for believers

From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory: Colossians 1:21-23

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### The Necessity of Perseverance

Colossians 1:23 (ESV)

**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.

- "The faith" is synonymously parallel with "the hope" of the gospel
- "if indeed" does not express doubt
- We are not to shift but to remain grounded

From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory: Colossians 1:21-23

6

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



# From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory

## Colossians 1:23-24

10/05/14  
by Bob DeWaay

### Implications and Applications

- We cannot be ambivalent about Jesus Christ
- The gospel always has an eternal perspective
- We must not presume on our status as Christians

From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory: Colossians 1:21-23

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### There Can Be No Ambivalence About Christ

Matthew 27:23-24 (NASB)

And he said, 'Why, what evil has He done?' But they kept shouting all the more, saying, 'Crucify Him!' When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water and **washed his hands in front of the crowd**, saying, 'I am innocent of this Man's blood; see to that yourselves.'

- Christ is Creator and Redeemer -- neutrality is hostility
- To go from hostility to reconciliation is not dependant on the former emotional state of the sinner (Acts 9:4ff)

From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory: Colossians 1:21-23

8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### The Gospel Has an Eternal Perspective

Ephesians 3:11, 12 (NASB)

This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have **boldness and confident access through faith in Him**.

- Christianity is not a self-improvement religion (1Cor. 15:19)
- Being blameless before God on the day of judgment is everything

From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory: Colossians 1:21-23

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



# From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory

## Colossians 1:23-24

10/05/14  
by Bob DeWaay

### We Must Not Presume on Our Status

Revelation 3:17-18 (NASB)

Because you say, 'I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,' and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked, I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.

From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory: Colossians 1:21-23

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### We Must Not Presume on Our Status

Isaiah 55:1-2 (NASB)

"Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters; And you who have no money come, buy and eat. Come, buy wine and milk Without money and without cost. Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And delight yourself in abundance."

[See John 7:37-38](#)

From Alienation to Reconciliation to Glory: Colossians 1:21-23

11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

