

**PASSION WITHOUT WISDOM CAN BE ABRASIVE.
PASSION WITH WISDOM IS PERSUASIVE.**

Colossians 1:24-2:3

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,²⁵ 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,²⁶ the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints.²⁷ 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.²⁸ Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.²⁹ For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

2 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face,² that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ,³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

What we want others to have

- Hope in suffering – 1:24 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,
- Stewardship mentality on life – 1:25 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**,
- Rationale for reconciliation – 1:26-27 the mystery **hidden** for ages and generations but now **revealed** to his saints.²⁷ 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.

- Purpose and passion – 1:28-2:3 Him **we proclaim, warning** everyone and **teaching** everyone with all wisdom, that we may **present everyone mature in Christ**.²⁹ For this I **toil, struggling** with all his energy that he powerfully works within me. 2¹ For I want you to know how great a **struggle** I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face,² that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ,³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

- Purpose: Present everyone spiritually mature by warning and teaching them in all wisdom.
- Passion: Toil and struggle with all God-given energy.
- Struggle: Wanting them to be encouraged and knit together in love to reach maturity.

Application

- Ask God for wisdom and skill in dealing with people.
- Be humble. Take the Gospel seriously, but not yourself.
- Be patient. Remember that you used to be blind.