

Christ Our Portion

Scripture Reading: Col. 1:12; 2:6-7

I. God's intention in His economy is that the all-inclusive Christ be everything to us—Eph. 3:8-10

- A. The all-inclusive Christ is the center and the circumference, the centrality and the universality, of God's purpose and economy—Col. 1:15-18.
- B. The will of God is that the all-inclusive, extensive Christ be our portion—v. 9, 12.
- C. We need to be infused, saturated, and permeated with the all-inclusive Christ until in our experience He is everything to us—2:16-17; 3:10-11.
- D. Satan, the enemy of God, has been doing his utmost to hinder the people of God from enjoying Christ as the all-inclusive One; he will do whatever he can to spoil our enjoyment of Christ—2:4, 8, 18.

II. The all-inclusive Christ is our allotted portion—1:12

- A. The allotted portion refers to the lot of the inheritance, as illustrated by the allotment of the good land of Canaan given to the children of Israel for their inheritance—Gen. 13:14-15; Josh. 14:1.
- B. The New Testament believers' allotted portion is not a physical land; it is the all-inclusive Christ as the life-giving Spirit—Col. 2:6-7; Gal. 3:14.
- C. The riches of the good land typify the unsearchable riches of Christ in different aspects as the bountiful supply to His believers in His Spirit—Deut. 8:7-10; Eph. 3:8; Phil. 1:19.
 - 1. The waterbrooks, springs, and fountains signify Christ as the flowing Spirit—John 4:14; 7:37-39.
 - 2. Wheat typifies the incarnated Christ who was crucified and buried to multiply Himself—12:24.
 - 3. Barley points to the resurrected Christ as the firstfruits—1 Cor. 15:20.
 - 4. Vines typify the Christ who sacrificed Himself to produce wine to cheer God and man—Judges 9:13; Matt. 9:17.
 - 5. The fig tree speaks of the sweetness and satisfaction of Christ as the life supply—Judges 9:11.
 - 6. The pomegranates signify the fullness, the abundance and beauty, and the expression of the riches of Christ as life—S. S. 4:3b, 13.
 - 7. The olive tree typifies Christ as the One who was filled with the Spirit and anointed with the Spirit—Luke 4:1, 18; Heb. 1:9.
 - 8. Milk and honey speak forth the goodness and sweetness of Christ—Deut. 6:3; Exo. 3:8.
 - 9. The bread signifies Christ as the bread of life—John 6:35, 48.
 - 10. Stones signify Christ as the material for building God's dwelling place—Isa. 28:16; Zech. 4:7; 1 Pet. 2:4.
 - 11. Iron signifies Christ's ruling authority and copper Christ's judging power—Matt. 28:18; Rev. 19:15; 1:15.
- D. As the good land, Christ is ready to be taken and possessed by His believers; however, there is the need for those who are ready to take Him, possess Him, experience Him, and enjoy Him in His all-inclusiveness—Num. 14:6-9, 24.

III. The issue of our enjoyment of the all-inclusive riches of Christ as the good land is the church as the temple, the dwelling place of God, and as the city, the kingdom of God—Eph. 2:21-22

- A. The land is Christ Himself, and the temple and the city are the fullness of Christ, the church, which is His Body—1:22-23; 2:21-22.
- B. We cannot enjoy Christ as the good land without the Body; we must be one with the Body to fight for the land, to possess the land, and to share our portion of the land—Num. 32:1-32; Josh. 22:1-9.

Focus: God's will and intention in His economy is that we would all enjoy and be constituted with the unsearchable riches of Christ, who is our allotted portion, which issues in us corporately becoming His fullness and expression, the church as the Body of Christ.