

You are God’s servant.

I. Rejoice in your suffering for Christ (1:24)

- A. Why Paul rejoiced in his sufferings (Acts 9:4, 15-16)
 - 1. His suffering turned out to be for the Colossians
 - 2. His suffering fulfilled the Church’s calling
 - 3. His suffering fulfilled his own conversion
- B. The same is true for you. (1 Pet. 4:12-19; Pro. 24:21-22; Phil. 1:29)
 - 1. Provided you suffer for Christ.
 - 2. Your suffering will be for your brothers.
 - 3. Your suffering fulfills the calling of the Church.

II. Follow God’s plan. (1:25-27)

- A. God’s economy. (Lk. 17:1-2; Eph. 1:7-10)
 - 1. Creation order and new creation order.
 - 2. Calling: how you fit in God’s plan.
- B. The Goal: that the nations fulfill God’s Word.
- C. The Word Christians fulfill

III. Proclaim Christ. (1:28-29)

- A. Warning and teaching everyone
 - 1. Why and how we warn
 - 2. Why and how we teach
- B. To present everyone complete in Christ
 - 1. New Creation
 - 2. By God’s power
- C. Toil and striving (Gen. 3:17-19; Col. 1:11, 29)
 - 1. New creation born in fallen creation
 - 2. Patience and endurance for toil and striving
 - 3. By God’s power