

Colossians
Lesson 19

Col 1:12-13 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: KJV

I. Fit To Be Partakers

- a. Four things **required** to make us meet or fit to be partakers
 1. We must be **chosen**. Christ must identify Himself with us. John 1:13; Eph 1:3-7; John 10:14-16; 27-29
 2. We must be **born again** John 3:3-7
 3. We must **identify** ourselves with Christ Ps 116:17; Rom 10:13
 - a. He is our **substitutionary** atonement and we are redeemed. Rom 3:24-25
 - b. He makes reconciliation possible between us and God because our **sin debt** is paid in full. 2 Cor 5:18-19
 - c. His blood **justifies** us before God and makes us acceptable to Him. Rom 3:26
 4. We must be given the **righteousness** of Christ. Matt 5:20; Rom 5:17; 2 Cor 5:21
 - b. The word **inheritance** is the one used to describe the casting of lots by the children of Israel to see where each tribe would be settled in the land.
 1. It represents that **portion** of the heavenly kingdom given by God to each true believer. Matt 25:34

II. Light

- a. Light, in the Scriptures is an emblem of God's **holiness**, and holiness lays the foundation for Christian ethics. 1 John 1:5-8
- b. Light is a symbol for **knowledge**, the fountain from whence all intellectual light and spiritual understanding proceed. John 8:12; Ps 119:105
- c. Light is a symbol of **happiness** or blessedness. Ps 30:5
- d. **Messiah** was frequently spoken of by the prophets under the emblem of light Isa 60:1-3; 49:6.
- e. **Christ**, is "the light of man," John 1:4; and he is "the true light," John 1:9; he is "the light of the world," John 8:12
- f. Those who compose that kingdom on earth are "**the children of light**," Luke 16:8; 1 Thess 5:5.
- g. And all the descriptions of the **kingdom** of God represent it as filled with light and glory, Isa. 60:19; Rev. 21:23-24; 22:5 .

III. Darkness

- a. Being in darkness refers to the power exerted over creation in that dark kingdom to which we formerly belonged-**the kingdom of Satan**. John 8:44-47
- b. The characteristic of this empire is darkness-its **emblems** are:
 1. **sin** Acts 26:18
 2. **error** 1 Peter 2:6-9
 3. **misery and death**. Luke 1:79
- c. By nature these emblems of the kingdom of darkness had **uncontrollable power** over us. Col 2:13; Rom 5:6-10

When are we translated into the kingdom of His dear Son?

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IV. Translated

- a. In the writings of **Josephus** the word rendered here "translated" is often used in the sense of removing a people from one country to another.
- b. It means that we who are Christians have been **transferred** from one kingdom to another, as if we are a people who have been removed.
- c. We become **subjects** of a new kingdom, under different laws, and belong to a different community.
- d. This change is made spiritually and in reality in our **regeneration**, by which we pass from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light.

V. Application

- a. Paul exhorted the Colossians to “**thank God**” for making them fit for His kingdom and for delivering them from darkness to light.
- b. As you contemplate what it is that God has given you as a Believer, convert your contemplation into a prayer of **Thanksgiving** for God’s unspeakable mercy and grace.

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- e. _____, is "the light of man," John 1:4; and he is "the true light," John 1:9; he is "the light of the world," John 8:12
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