

# **“Living with Passion and Purpose”**

## **The Supremacy of Christ Series**

Colossians 1:24-2:3

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### **We can live with passion and purpose when we are....**

#### **1. Willing to embrace suffering. (Colossians 1:24)**

“I want you to know how glad I am that it's me sitting here in this jail and not you. There's a lot of suffering to be entered into in this world—the kind of suffering Christ takes on. I welcome the chance to take my share in the church's part of that suffering.”

Colossians 1:24, *The Message*

#### **2. Living from a divine calling. (Colossians 1:25)**

“Had Paul compromised with the Jews and stopped ministering to the Gentiles, he could have been spared a great deal of suffering. But he could not abandon his calling just for personal safety and comfort. He had been made a minister by God; he had been given a ‘stewardship’ (dispensation) and he had to be faithful to his calling (1 Corinthians 4:2). It was not a matter of choice: he was called to fulfill the Word of God.”

Warren Wiersbe, *Be Complete*, David C. Cook, Colorado Springs, CO, 1981, p. 76.

**3. Proclaiming Christ. (Colossians 1:26-28)**

“This mystery has been kept in the dark for a long time, but now it's out in the open. God wanted everyone, not just Jews, to know this rich and glorious secret inside and out, regardless of their background, regardless of their religious standing. The mystery in a nutshell is just this: Christ is in you, so therefore you can look forward to sharing in God's glory. It's that simple. That is the substance of our Message. We preach Christ, warning people not to add to the Message.”

Colossians 1:26-28a, *The Message*

**4. Helping others know Christ and mature in Him. (Colossians 1:28-2:3)**

“We teach in a spirit of profound common sense so that we can bring each person to maturity. To be mature is to be basic. Christ! No more, no less.”

Colossians 1:28b, *The Message*

\*Be sure to visit the book table in the Lobby. Andy Stanley's book, *How Good is Good Enough?* is available to you free of charge.