

PIECING LIFE TOGETHER: *You Are Here!*

Colossians 1:21-29

- i. Have you ever found yourself in a place that was so big, you almost immediately got lost?
- ii. The flow of this text goes from the cosmic Christ to your and our place in God's work.
- iii. The poem of 1:15-20 is answered by a so what?
- iv. It's the *YOU ARE HERE KIOSK* at the world's biggest mall.

WE FIND OUR PLACE IN THE WORK BY SURRENDERING TO THESE 3 GREAT CONVERSIONS ...

I. WE ARE PUT ON THE MAP (21-23)

- a. "Once you were ... but now" everything is different.
- b. We are brought into God's presence
- c. But how? Through Christ we are made: holy, without blemish, free from accusation, established, firm, not moved
- d. In Christ-***YOU ARE HERE!***

II. WE ARE ROOTED IN THE CHURCH (24-26)

- a. We are full functioning members of Christ's body. The Church. There is no "I" in team. There is no "I" in church.
- b. Our work is: to suffer for Christ, grow in the word, dive into the deep mysteries of the cosmic Christ and God's politics, offered to all people (Gentiles and outsiders).
- c. In Christ-***WE ARE HERE!***

III. WE ARE UNLEASHED INTO THE NEIGHBORHOOD (27-29)

- a. Led by God's Holy Spirit to re-create anew.
- b. Our work:
 - i. Proclaims in word and listening deed - Seeing people as people
 - ii. Admonishes to love and good deeds - Immersing into the other.
 - iii. Teaches with wisdom - Contends with people shoulder to shoulder.
 - iv. Present everyone perfect in Christ - Restorative justice.
- c. In Christ-***WE MAKE PEACE!***

BE BRAVE. BE BOLD. BE CHURCH.

CHALLENGE:

Surrender to Christ as Cosmic Christ over all!

Surrender to the Church as the Body of Christ!

Surrender to be led by the Spirit to Make peace in the neighborhood!