

Give Thanks to God

Colossians 1:3

Introduction: Paul, in our key verse, was giving thanks for the church members at Colosse. It is a most wonderful thing to be a part of a good church where born again people live together in love and care for one another. We are blessed with such a church. Be thankful for it and strive for the unity and love of the membership. As the pastor I am grateful to God for you and I would like to mention three things about my thankfulness.

I. For Their Faith

Faith is the channel through which salvation comes (**Eph. 2:8**). The faith of the Colossians was in the right place, in Christ Jesus. Our faith and hope stand in Him alone. It cannot come through works of righteousness that we have done, or in any other person, but by trusting totally in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and His death, burial, resurrection, and second coming.

II. For Their Love

Where there is faith. Love is there also (**Romans 5:5**). There is no love as pure, sweet, or as great as the love of true Christians. I John 3:14 says, "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not *his* brother abideth in death."

III. For Their Hope

Hope speaks of things to come, or in a time to come. True Christians have a future, a real future. It seems that the world is on a collision course with doom. War and strife are on every hand, with dreaded diseases gaining on medical science every day. With hatred in the bloodstream of mankind, it seems there is no hope for planet earth. But, for the child of God hope is not in this world

Eph 2:12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

Tit 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

Our hope is in Jesus Christ, who is coming back to this earth soon to make all things right. He will put down all sin forever, Amen! This is the hope for which we need to give thanks to our Heavenly Father for every day.