

Colossians 2:2

Col 2:1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and *for* them at Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;

Col 2:2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of YAHWEH, and of the Father, and of Christ;

Amazing how Paul with few words brought such depth to this most important teaching for our lives. One of the key words he used, the word understanding. Let's take a moment and read these next verses as Paul used them in Col 2:2.

Pro 4:7 Wisdom *is* the principal thing; *therefore* get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

Pro 4:8 Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honor, when thou dost embrace her.

Pro 4:9 She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

Another very important insight from Paul is: being knit together in love. The wisdom of this is deep and we will see that unfold shortly. He is saying: we the believers are in process receiving the hidden manna of YAHWEH. Let ourselves listen real quietly, because I have missed this for forty years. Paul said: The great conflict I have for them at Laodicea; we, are in the spiritual time Laodicea. Paul it sounds like is expressing: I want to share something of hope to you because you are in great conflict of which I am engaged. You are being knit or taught, each one of you, but not in solitude. Together as you seek knock and ask, growing individually; while growing together in His love. Each loop in the knit is "us" and all the loops form the body. Paul continuing: In this knitting you're comforted, in all patience and long suffering until we each come into the fulness of understanding, and assurance that there is a mystery. **Rev 2:17** for the church Laodicea (the called out ones) ... To him that overcomes (called out a second time) will I give to eat of the hidden manna...

There is more than just being called out; we are also called to overcome and then we can eat of that hidden manna ... which no man knows saving he that received *it*. **Pro 8:21** That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance ... 1John 1:2 For the life was manifested, and we have seen *it*

When we are speaking to someone we stumble with the thoughts for recognizing Father, or should we say Son or is it Holy Spirit? We have strife in our heads. Why? Because we have two or three conflicting thoughts in our heads. **1Co 14:33** For YAHWEH is not *the* author of confusion, but of peace, unto the called out of the called out.

These adversaries Paul speaks of are his equals as men of renown, from the schools of philosophy and theology they are, but they came from men of old Gen 6:4, Num 16:2. They said to the church: we bring to you with good tidings, creeds and doctrine that layout the understanding plainly. Removing all the so called mysteries that Paul writes mysteriously about. For God is to the author of confusion. He gave us understanding, for you. We teach you this mystery in our creeds doctrinally; That you may know the fullness of the gospel. Go teach his name to your children and the world.

I will ask this question: is Paul's or John's effectual teaching being knit in us by Comforter? Or do we know the mystery by one of these perfect doctrines or creeds? Which of these paths fulfills Isa 28:13 ... precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken? Are the adversaries of Paul being taken and broken or is Paul John the ones taken and broken, falling backward? Falling backward to what? St. Augustine and many early fathers held to the great philosophers of old. Did you know in Martin Luther's day Catholic priests were not allowed to

own a bible. They taught from Aristotle, it's true as Martin wrote of it in his letters and diary. Jude 1:4 ...who were before of old ordained ...

In Col 2:2 Paul didn't write using the title God, because that popular Greek word brings confusion to his thought. The title God is the argument fully; Paul is pulling out the elements of argument that his adversaries are teaching. Because Paul is bringing each element into discussion, he must have written YAHWEH and as John wrote: YAHWEH is a Spirit.

That said, we are back to Exo 3:14, IAM or YAHWAH. So Col 2:2 was written as: is the mystery of YAHWEH; In driving Paul's points of argument specific, I'll use the descriptive Holy Spirit.

Paul said in Col 2:1: "I have great conflict for you," his fullness of thought strikes me as: I am in Conflicting arguments with theologians/philosophers on your behalf. So Paul presents to the church the many theologies circulating at this time in Corinth.

I believe his complete thought expressed in Col 2:2 follows: **1Co 2:7** But we speak the wisdom of Holy Spirit in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom*, which Holy Spirit ordained before the world unto our glory: **1Co 16:9** For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries. **Col 2:1** For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and *for* them at Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh; **2:2** That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of Holy Spirit, and of the Father, and of Christ;

Paul I believe, is expressing three conflicts of theology at Corinth with Col 2:2: what is the mystery of Holy Spirit, and the mystery of the Father, and the mystery of Messiah.

Something I found interesting from Col 2:2 is that Paul wrote, "The mystery of Messiah," not Son. Paul brought in the arguments of Christology. Turns out John chapter 5:7-8 and Paul wrote the same. Paul speaks of this third mystery in Php 2:5-6; Paul's ongoing effectual labor in love for the mystery.

Here is what was given to me for Col 2:2: the mystery of Holy Spirit, the mystery of Father, the mystery of Messiah. A=B+C

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