

Hacks or Facts:

Fact: This Japanese hotel room costs \$1 a night. The catch? You have to Livestream your stay
CNN • Updated 21st November 2019

*did anyone try my conditioner as a body moisturizer hack?

Introduction

1. Announcement: The website has my notes, links to resources, and maybe my talk if I remember to record it. <https://sgc.church/vital-life>
2. Mary and Martha's story
 - a. Martha and Mary
 - b. 38 Now as they went on their way, Jesus⁴ entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. 39 And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. 40 But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." 41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, 42 but one thing is necessary.⁵ Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."
 - c. Did we come in anxious and troubled about many things?
 - i. I did
 - ii. I'm grateful I'm facilitating. We all have the Holy Spirit to understand the passage.
 - d. We sit at Jesus' feet.
 - e. It is the better part.
 - f. It won't be taken away from us

3. PRAY

4. Review
 - a. Epistles
 - i. What are the Five principles we learned last week for studying the epistles?
 - ii. Why is Important?

Principle 1: discover the author, date, recipients, and occasion

Principle 2: read the entire book in one sitting to establish the themes.

Principle 3: Keep every passage in its literary context

Principle 4: make connections with the book of Acts

Principle 5: Always start with THEM/THEN before you go to US/NOW

- b. Colossians Background information
 - i. Who wrote it?
 - ii. What is the structure of a Pauline Epistle?
 - iii. How is Colossians unique (2 ways)
 - iv. What was the occasion?
 - v. What is the overarching theme for the book?
 - vi. How might this book be relevant to the church today?

c. Colossians 1:1-14 Review

- i. What can we think of when we see faith, hope, and love in a text?
- ii. What were some of the components of Paul's prayer for the church at Colossae?

TEACHING

1. Read the text (ask for volunteers)
2. The Christ Hymn
 - a. Jesus is Lord of Creation (verses 15-17)

*WHAT ARE SOME REPEATED WORDS/ PHRASES

- i. Ruler vs. 15
 1. He is the image of the invisible God
 2. He is the firstborn of all creation
 - a. Not created
 - b. "What Paul had in mind was the rights and privileges of a firstborn son, especially the son of a monarch who would inherit ruling sovereignty. This is how the expression is used of David: 'I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth' psalm 89:27." ESV Study Bible
- ii. Creator vs. 16
 1. By Him, all things were created
- iii. Sustainer vs. 17
 1. In him, all things hold together.
- iv. He is the agent of creation, and He is the goal of creation! Verse 16b
- b. Jesus is Lord of Redemption or New Creation
 - i. Ruler vs. 18
 1. He is the head of the body, the church.
 - a. Leadership but also
 - b. Sustainer
 2. He is firstborn
 - ii. Recipient vs. 18b and 19
 1. Original audience... fullness, just Jesus
 2. Temple language... fullness of God's presence in the temple
 3. "I looked, and behold, the glory of the Lord filled the temple" Ez. 44:4.
 4. Wisdom, power, spirit, glory. All this divine fullness dwells in Jesus.
 - iii. Reconciler
 1. The one who created the visible and invisible reality
 2. Put on flesh and dwelled among us
 3. Why???
 - a. To reconcile God and man (vs. 20)
 - b. How?
 - i. The blood of his cross

- ii. The gospel
 - 1. We were
 - a. Alienated
 - b. Hostile in mind
 - c. Doing evil deeds
 - 2. He has
 - a. Reconciled in his body of flesh by his death
 - 3. We now
 - a. Holy
 - b. Blameless
 - c. Above reproach
 - 4. If we
 - a. Continue in the faith
 - b. Stable and steadfast
 - c. Not shifting from the hope of the gospel. Have we shifted?
 - i. Wise and foolish man building their houses

Build Your House on the Rock

24 “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall because it had been founded on the rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. 27 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

- d. From the hope of the gospel
 - i. Proclaimed in all creation
 - ii. Looping back around to the creation part.
 - iii. Looping back around to verse 6 in the whole earth, the gospel is bearing fruit

3. Application

- a. Where is my hope?
 - i. For this world
 - ii. For the church
 - iii. For my family, kids, etc.
 - iv. For living worthy of the gospel
- b. Our hope is in Jesus, who is ruling and reigning over creation and new creation.
- c. “A continual view of the glory of Christ will have the blessed effect of changing us more and more into the likeness of Christ. Perhaps other ways and means have failed to make us Christlike. Let us put this way to the test. Most of our spiritual weakness and unfruitfulness is caused by letting other things occupy our minds

too easily. When we have our minds filled with christ and his glory, and our hearts burn with great love to him, we shall have no room for any other things (see Colossians 3:1-5).” - The Glory of Christ by John Owen

DISCUSSION

1. Any questions about the text?
2. Any insights or observations you'd like to share with the group?

SMALL GROUPS

Colossians 1

English Standard Version

Greeting

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

2 To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, 5 because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, 6 which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, 7 just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf 8 and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

9 And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. 13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The Preeminence of Christ

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19 For in him

all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

21 And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 22 he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, 23 if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made;
of the same essence as the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory
to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life.
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.