

## Research the Facts

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- ❖ Key words/phrases: (Research definitions that are unclear to you).
  
- ❖ Connecting words and the ideas or relationships they connect (e.g., “if, but, therefore, as, so that”)
  - 1:26 but →
  - 1:28 so that →
  - 1:29 to this end →
  - 2:1 now →
  - 2:2 so that →
  - 2:2 in order that →
  - 2:4 so that →
  
- ❖ List or sequence of words.
  
- ❖ Teachings about God and His character.
  
- ❖ Repetitions and comparisons – similar words and phrases.
  
- ❖ Contrasts – opposite words and phrases.
  
- ❖ How will these truths help correct the false teachings infiltrating the church at Colossae around 65 AD?

## Review for Meaning

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- ❖ Sequence of ideas – What is the main point? How does this text expose false teaching?
  
- ❖ How does this text encourage believer’s worldwide of all generations to grow in truth?

## Respond for Life - Consider *one* the following options:

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- ❖ New understanding of God and His character – praise and thanksgiving...
  
- ❖ New promise to claim...key verse to memorize...
  
- ❖ Change needed: choice for confession and obedience.
  
- ❖ False teaching to guard against...prayer for wisdom.
  
- ❖ Something I question...

# Hidden Treasures

A study on the books of Ecclesiastes and Colossians

“.. that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.” -Colossians 2:2b-3

## Additional Bible Study Resources

- Growing Christians Ministries – [www.growingchristians.org](http://www.growingchristians.org)
- Matthew Henry Commentary - [www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/matthew-henry-complete](http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/matthew-henry-complete)
- Tom Canstable Expository Notes - [www.soniclight.com/constable/notes.htm](http://www.soniclight.com/constable/notes.htm)
- Bible Gateway – [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

## Some Background Notes

1:24 Paul **isn't** saying here that the suffering that Christ endured for our atonement is lacking in any way. The Greek word *thlipseon* which is used in this passage as “afflictions”, is never used anywhere else in scripture to refer to the atoning work of Christ. Therefore he is most likely referring to Christ's suffering through his “body” – the church. C.f., Acts 9:4-5, Colossians 1:18. For more information, read Tom Canstable's Expository Notes.

1:27 “...the hope of glory.” The word “glory” comes from the Greek word *doksa*, which literally means "what evokes *good opinion*, i.e. that something has *inherent, intrinsic worth*".

“Life in the Son” = something of great worth!  
Solomon's observations of “Life under the sun” = meaninglessness

2:1 Laodicea was about 11 miles west of Colossae. The false teachings that Paul was addressing were spreading throughout this whole region.



A few observations on the way Paul confronts false teachings:

- He isn't negative, but instead points to Jesus.
- Uses terminology that's familiar and ideas that are familiar.
  - Ex – vs. 5 – *discipline* - military terminology / 2:1 - *contending* –athletic terminology

## Warm-up questions:

1. How do you recognize an authentic God-given ministry?
2. Have you ever been drawn to personal charisma over the content of a message?