**RESCUED FROM DARKNESS**

Colossians 1:12-14

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**INTRODUCTION**

Today, we begin a study of Paul’s letter to the Colossians. The letter was one of the prison epistles, along with Ephesians, Philippians, and Philemon. A visit to Colosse does not appear in any of Paul’s missionary journeys, but he did pass nearby on the third journey going from Phrygia to Ephesus (in Asia Minor). Colosse, a prominent city along the east-west trade route from Ephesus to the Euphrates until the 8th century, was ultimately destroyed by the Turks in the 12th century. In our study of Colossians today, I want us to see that what God has done for the believers then and now is truly impossible, improbable, and incomparable.

1. **GOD DOES THE IMPOSSIBLE (v. 12).**
2. He **qualifies** us—prepares us for receiving His help.
3. He qualifies us to **share** in the inheritance of the saints.
4. He qualifies us for the light, **walking** in it now & **living** in eternal light later.

*God does the impossible by making us qualified for His Kingdom. It is something no one else could do for us. We are only qualified for death and hell, BUT GOD…!*

1. **GOD DOES THE IMPROBABLE (v. 13).**
2. He **rescues** us—delivers us from an unbreakable hold.
3. He rescues us from **dominion**, or power source.
4. He rescues us from the dominion of **darkness**.

*It is impossible for us to deliver ourselves from the clutches of Satan, yet God does what we could never do: He unexpectedly draws us out of the darkness of this world.*

1. **GOD DOES THE INCOMPARABLE (vv. 13-14).**
2. He brought us into the **Kingdom** of the **Son**.
3. He **redeems** us through His Son.
4. He **forgives** our **sins** through His Son.

*It is remarkable that God does for us what no one deserves or should ever expect. He saves us from our sins and brings us into the Kingdom of His Son. Glory to God!*

**CONCLUSION**

Paul describes what the glorious God has done for all of us as believers. He qualifies the unqualified to be prepared for salvation, He rescues us from Satan’s unbreakable hold and resulting darkness, and He redeems us through His Son so that we can spend eternity with Him in Heaven. Halleluia!

 *“God forgave my sin in Jesus’ name; I’ve been born again in Jesus’ name;*

*And in Jesus’ name I come to you to share His love as He told me to:*

*He said, ‘Freely, freely you have received—Freely, freely give;*

*Go in my name and, because you believe, others will know that I live.’”*