

It's my guess that you must not have major plans for Labor Day. After all, you're here. So, as long as we're stuck here, let's do some thinking for a few minutes about this national holiday. Where did it come from? When and why did it start? How did it become a national holiday and what does it mean today for those who work nine to five to earn a paycheck? And, what about all those who labor as volunteers? Oh, and while we're at it, what can we take away from it as followers of Christ? We have some amazing friends throughout our ministry that actually labor with great joy and a profound love for the Lord.

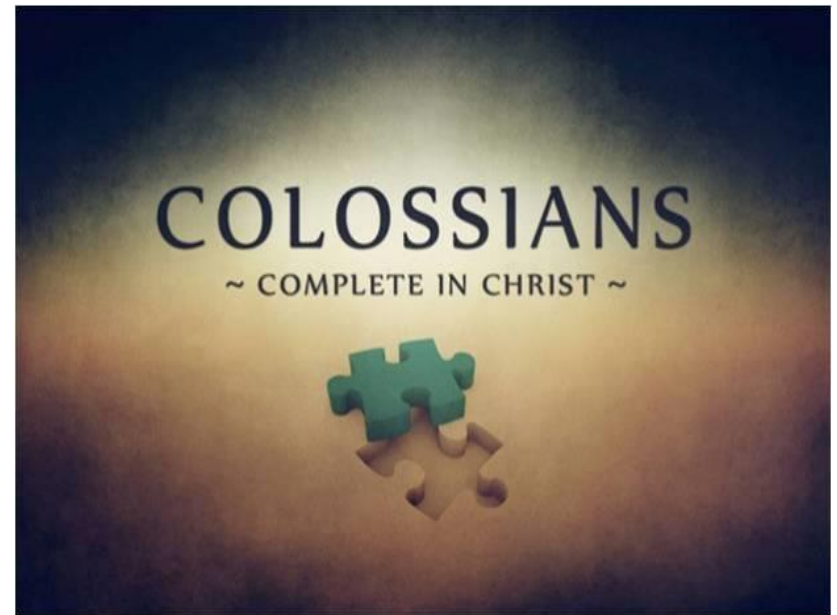
Participating in the sufferings of Christ for his church

Christ in you, the hope of glory

Labor on!

Personal Application and Interaction

1. In what ways have you suffered for the ongoing work of Christ on behalf of His body, the church?
2. How has God placed you strategically into service to proclaim His message to others?
3. Paul defines “the mystery that...is now disclosed to the saints”, as “Christ in you, the hope of glory” (NIV). The NLB renders this, “For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory.” We referred to this as “the glorification of the saints,” i.e., we will be like him when we see him as he is. How does being “in Christ” right now, reinforce your, “hope of glory?”
4. Every Christ follower, within the context of a local church, is to be part of a team effort that presents other as “complete in Christ” (v. 28). How is God working through you and your team in someone’s life?



A Labor Day Perspective

Colossians 1:23-29

**Pastor John Ploog
September 1, 2019**

