

## COMPLETE IN CHRIST

COLOSSIANS 1:24-29

# THE DANGER OF CULTURE-SHAPED GOSPEL SERVICE



Shape the culture like Paul  
by suffering like Christ,  
speaking hope like Christ,  
aiming at likeness to Christ,  
and serving by the power of Christ.

TO THIS I HOLD, MY HOPE IS ONLY JESUS  
ALL THE GLORY EVERMORE TO HIM  
WHEN THE RACE IS COMPLETE,  
STILL MY LIPS SHALL REPEAT  
YET NOT I, BUT THROUGH CHRIST IN ME.



### Culture-shaped Service

- Wrong expectations.
- Wrong message.
- Wrong aims.
- Wrong power source.

### Biblical answer?

### Gospel servant suffers like Christ

- Fills up Christ's sufferings
- For the church
- Results in joy

CULTURE-SHAPED SERVICE REJOICES IN COMFORT, BUT BIBLE-SHAPED SERVICE REJOICES IN SUFFERING.

Any positives?

### Gospel servant speaks hope like Christ

- Presents full Word
- Reveals long mystery
- Preaches a rich Christ

CULTURE-SHAPED SERVICE IS HOPE IN YOU, BUT BIBLE-SHAPED HOPE IS CHRIST IN YOU

What is the aim?

### Gospel servant aims at likeness to Christ

- Preaches Christ in various ways
- Aims at perfection in Christ

CULTURE-SHAPED SERVICE AIMS AT CULTURAL NORMS, BUT BIBLE-SHAPED SERVICE AIMS AT CHRIST-LIKENESS

Power available?

### Gospel servant serves by power of Christ

- Paul works very hard
- Paul works by Christ's power

CULTURE-SHAPED SERVICE IS SELF-POWERED, BUT BIBLE-SHAPED SERVICE IS CHRIST-POWERED

Action?