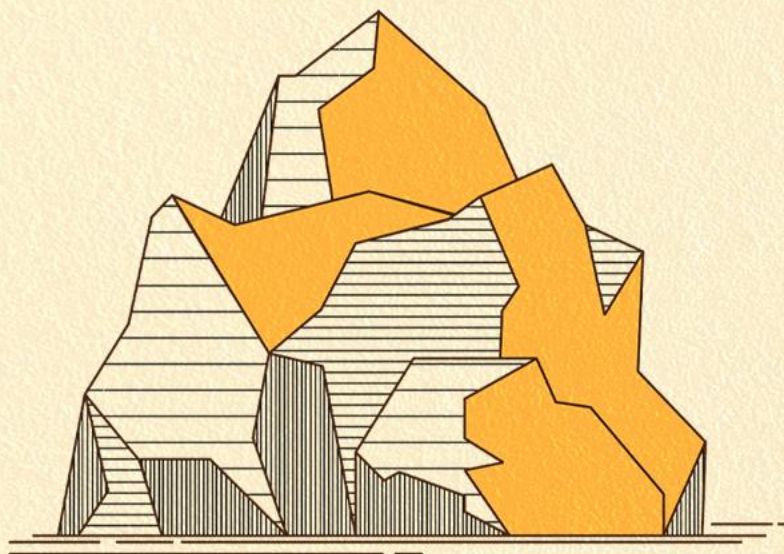




ESTABLISHED
in Christ

Reconciled

Colossians 1:21-29

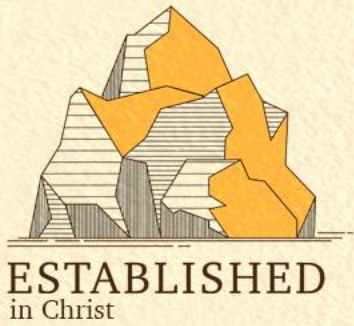


Personal Reflection

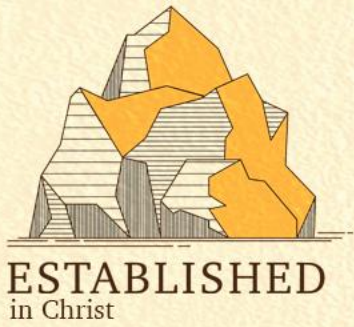
Read 1 Thessalonians 2.

1. How content are you with your current role in the church?
2. Do you sense that God might open a door for a new mission venture this fall?
3. What would it take to step through that door?





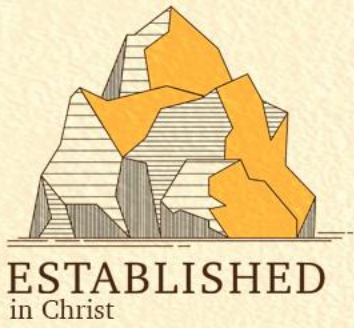
Paul helps the Colossians/us see ourselves within Christ's grand reconciliation story.
Like Paul, we can thus joyfully labor in Christ's strength to proclaim to everyone this revealed gospel mystery of hope for all nations.



Read

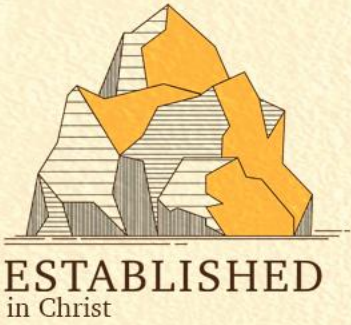
Colossians 1:21-29

(page 983)



Verses 21-23

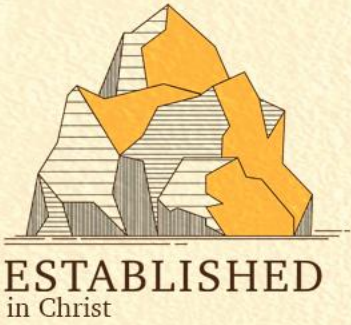
Verses 24-29



1. Y'all: Recall Your Reconciliation (21-23)

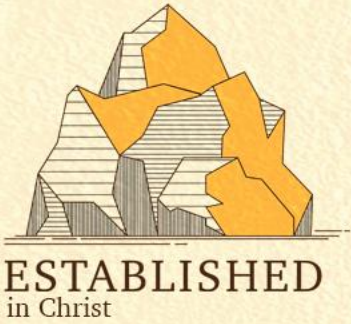
And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,

(Colossians 1:21–22)



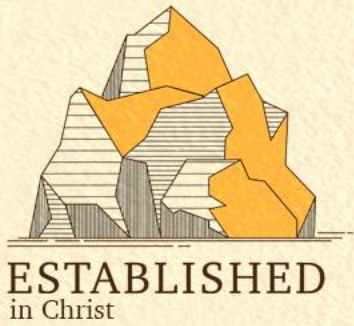
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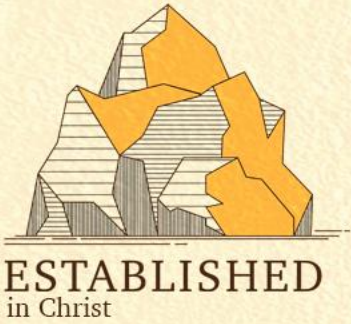


1. Y'all: Recall Your Reconciliation (21-23)

but your iniquities have made a separation

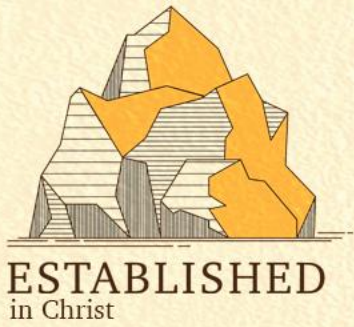
between you and your God,

and your sins have hidden his face from you... (Isaiah 59:2)



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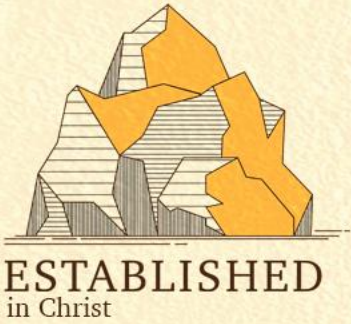
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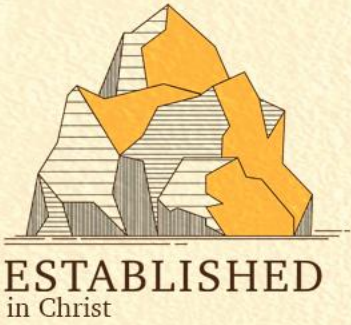
For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God,
for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

(Romans 8:7)



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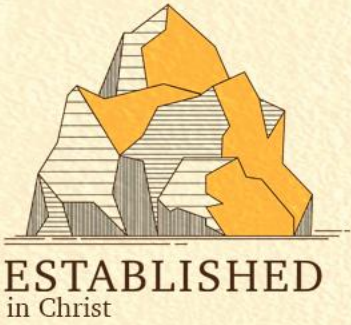
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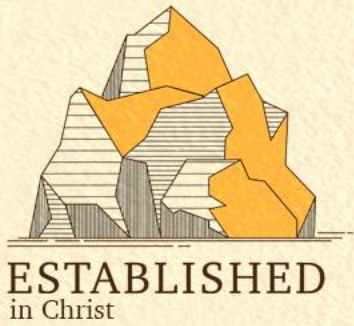
“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

(Genesis 3:15)



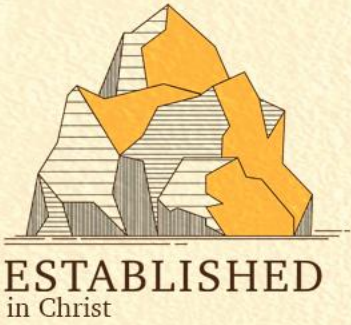
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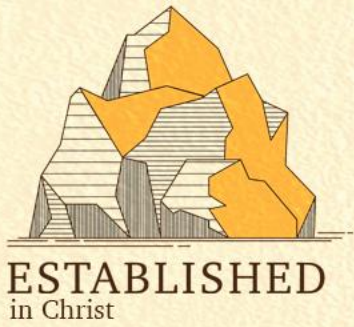
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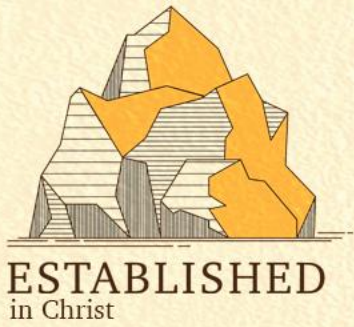
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Establishing Next Generation Insight

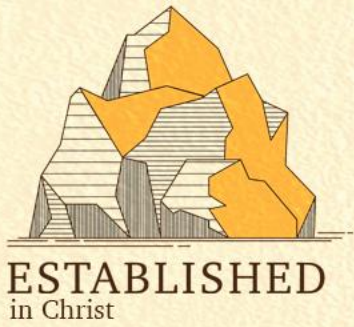
**Remind of the
reconciliation story!**



2. Stay built on the gospel (vs 23)

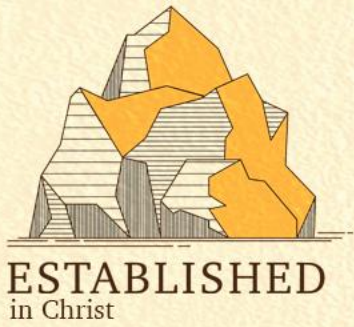
if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

(Colossians 1:23)



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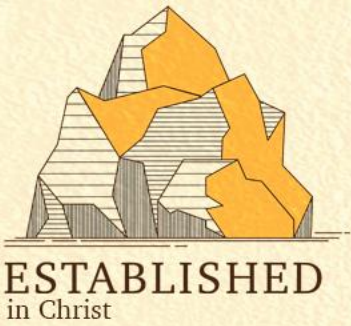
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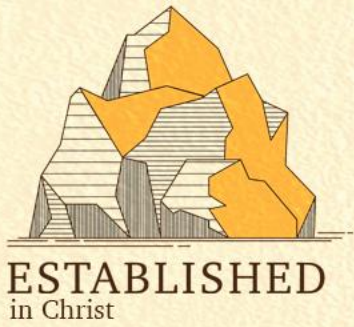
(Colossians 1:23)



2. Stay built on the gospel (vs 23)

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 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.”

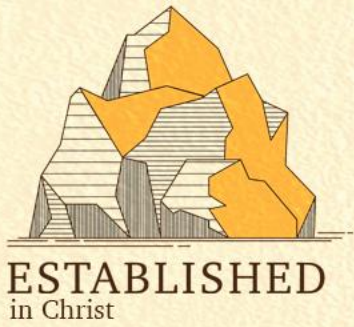
(Matthew 7:24–25)



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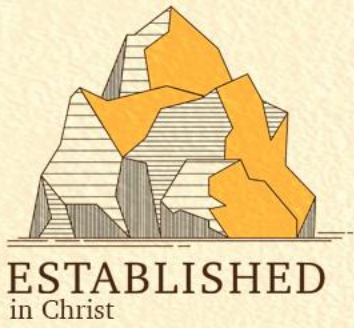
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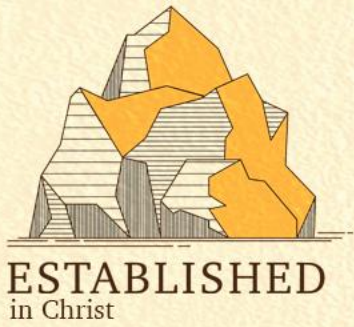
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Verses 21-23

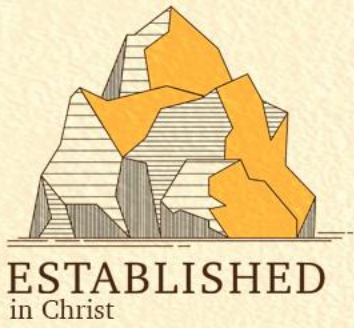




Read

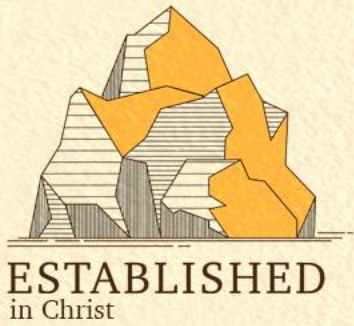
Colossians 1:24-29

(Paul's Gospel Ministry)



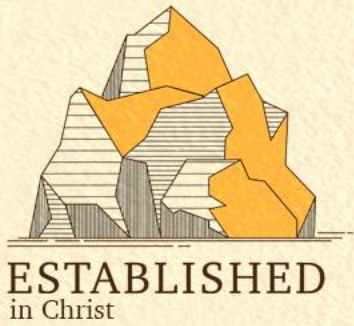
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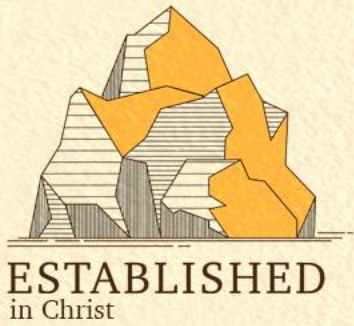
3. Paul's joyful suffering for Christ's Church (vs 24-25)

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, (Colossians 1:24-25)



3. Paul's joyful suffering for Christ's Church (vs 24-25)

for [Epaphroditus] nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me...I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent... (Philippians 2:30, 4:18)

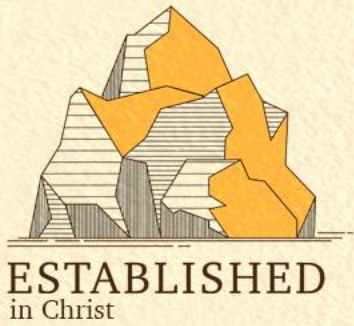


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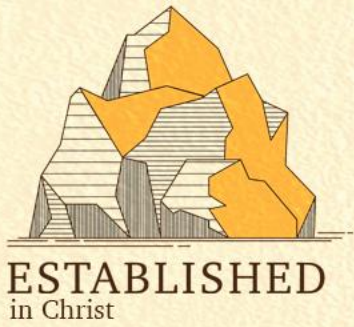
“All of these...are things to rejoice in...
because they are signs that the present age
is passing away, that the people of Jesus, the
Messiah, are the children of the new age,
and that the birthpangs of this new age are
being worked out in them.”

N.T. Wright



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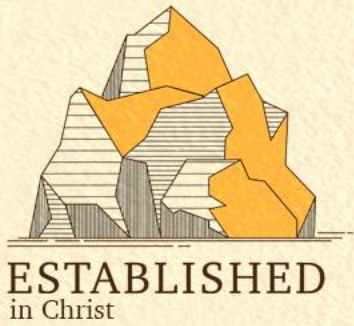
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4. God's Mystery: long hidden, now revealed (vs 26-27)

the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

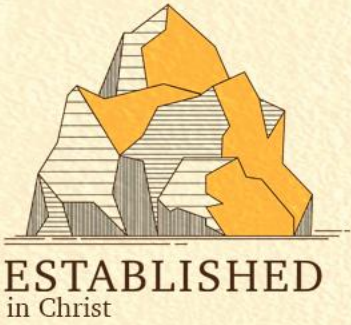
(Colossians 1:26-27)



4. God's Mystery: long hidden, now revealed (vs 26-27)

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

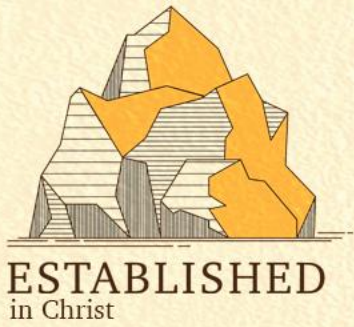
(Ephesians 5:31–32)



4. God's Mystery: long hidden, now revealed (vs 26-27)

μυστήριον (Greek word for mystery)

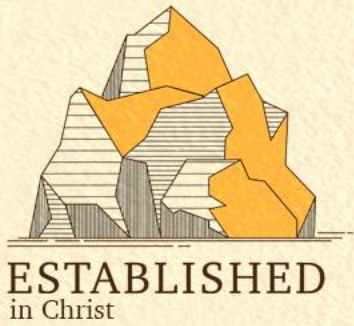
- ~~a paradox~~
- ~~something puzzling~~
- a hidden thing



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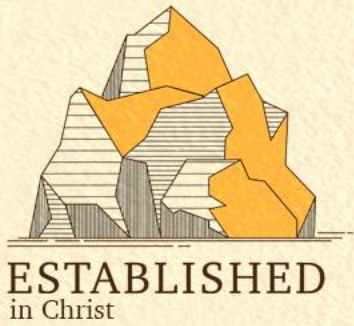
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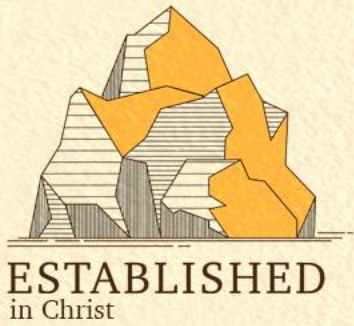
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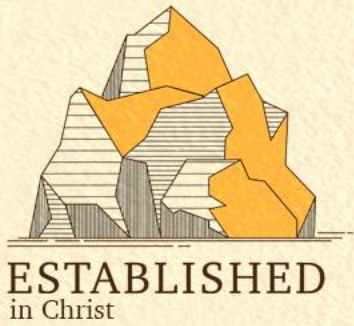
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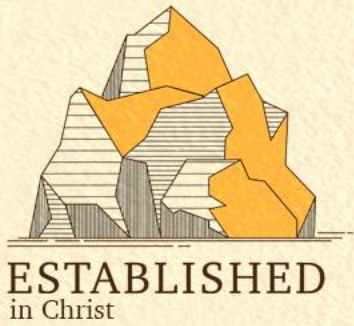
And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

(Acts 2:38)



4. God's Mystery: long hidden, now revealed (vs 26-27)

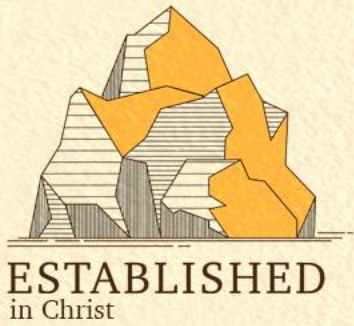
In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory. (Ephesians 1:13-14)



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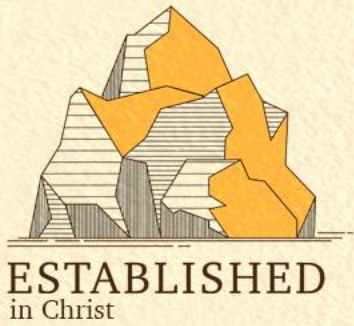
(Colossians 1:26-27)



5. Christ: The Content and Energy (vs 28-29)

Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

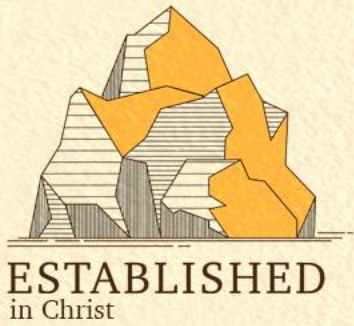
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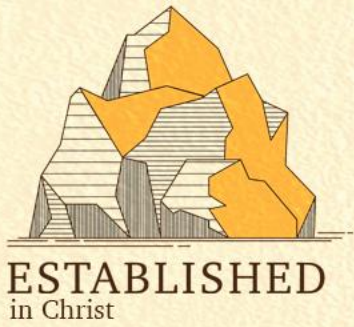
[Christ] has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,
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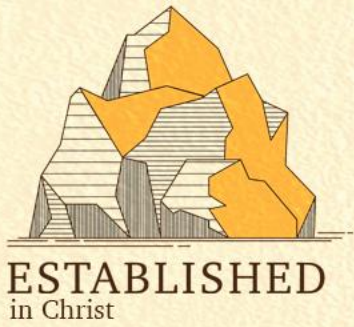
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Paul helps the Colossians/us see ourselves within Christ's grand reconciliation story.
Like Paul, we can thus joyfully labor in Christ's strength to proclaim to everyone this revealed gospel mystery of hope for all nations.



Gospel Blessings in Colossians 1:21-29

- 1. Reconciled** (present tense)
- 2. Indwelt** (present tense)
- 3. Bodily Resurrection/Glory** (Future tense)

COMMUNION

A close-up photograph of communion elements. In the foreground, a slice of white bread is visible on the left, and a glass of red wine is on the right. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue and white fabric, possibly a tablecloth.

What were we all before Christ reconciled us?

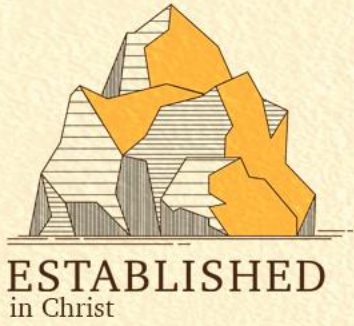
We were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds.

Now reconciled through Christ, what are we before God?

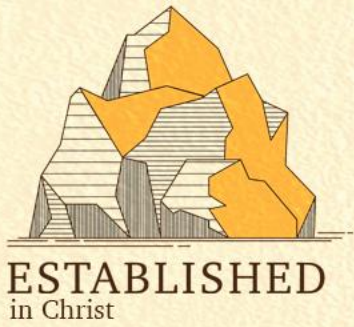
We are holy and blameless and above reproach before him.

Thank Christ for this mystery revealed: the gift of reconciliation!



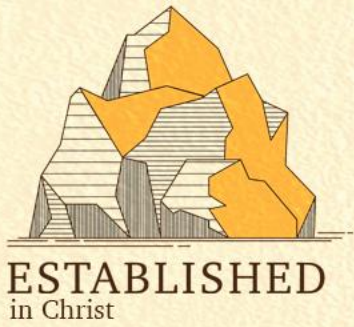


Kids Question



Kids Question

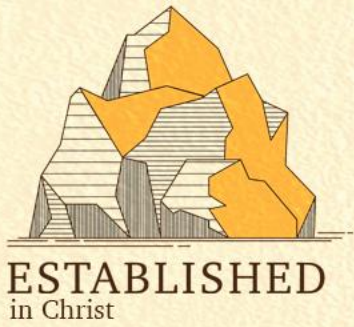
What's the primary meaning of 'mystery' in the New Testament?



Kids Question

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- A. A suspense novel
- B. A paradox
- C. A hidden thing
- D. Something puzzling



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