

Colosse's Epistle

Summarizing Paul's Letter to the Colossians

"... that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;" – Col

1:9-10

1. Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How?

- a. Paul and Tim (1:1) to saints in Colosse, Laodicea, and Hierapolis (1:2, 4:13,16)
 - i. Specially mentioned recipients: Nymphas, Archippus
 - ii. Others named: Epaphras, Tychicus, Onesimus, Aristarchus, Marcus, Barnabus, Jesus (Justus), Luke (physician), Demas
- b. A letter to the Colossians, i.e. "epistle" – Col 4:16
- c. When Paul was in prison – Col 4: 3, 10, 18
- d. Modern day Turkey
- e. For increasing: knowledge, wisdom, understanding, assurance, comfort, strength, patience, longsuffering, joyfulness, thanksgiving, charity, peace, etc.

2. Important Verses

- a. Jesus' deity and person (1:15, 19, 2:9), Christ's blood (1:14, 20), the dispensation of the mystery (1:25-27, 2:2-3), Paul's apostleship (1:1, 23, 25, 29), complete position in Christ (2:10-13), old man/new man, resurrected life (3:1-2, 9-11), purpose of music (3:16), redeeming the time (4:5-6)

3. Misused/Misunderstood Verses

- a. Kingdom (1:13), firstborn (1:15), IF continue/be not moved (1:23), baptism (2:12), shadows (2:16-17), rewards (3:24-25), open doors (4:3)

4. Colossians Curriculum for Saints

- a. Increase in the knowledge of God, His will, and the mystery of Christ with understanding and wisdom that you may:
 - i. be strengthened and comforted with joy
 - ii. be at peace with God and man, be thankful, and acknowledge the truth
 - iii. be able to walk accordingly in word and deed and redeem the time

5. A Colossians Outline/Summary

- a. 1 (the gospel of Christ), 2 (complete in Christ), 3 (serving Christ), 4 (ministers of Christ)
- b. Sections and content:
 - i. 1:1 – 1:12, greetings and prayer for the Colossians
 - ii. 1:13 – 1:23, mystery of Christ and His preeminence
 - iii. 1:24 – 2:5, Paul's ministry to the Colossians
 - iv. 2:4 – 2:23, complete position in Christ, forgiven all trespasses
 - v. 3:1 – 4:2, life in Christ, putting on the new man
 - vi. 4:3 – 4:6, continuing the ministry, redeeming the time
 - vii. 4:7 – 4:18, salutations from/to the Christ's ministers