

Bible Study: Colossians

Chapter 1

1. Introduction

- a. What is Paul's office and how did he get it? An apostle by the will of God
- b. To whom is the letter sent? To the saints and faithful brethren in Colosse
- c. What does he end the introduction with? Benediction

2. For what does Paul give thanks to God?

- a. their faith
- b. love for the saints
- c. their hope in Christ
- d. hope because of the word they heard
- e. their fruits of faith
- f. love in the Spirit

3. For what does Paul pray for the Colossians?

- a. they be filled with knowledge and wisdom
- b. walk worthy of the Lord
- c. fully pleasing God
- d. be patient and longsuffering
- e. thanks to the Father who has qualified us
- f. thank the Father who has made us partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.
- g. they know from vs. 15 Christ's supreme position in the special revelation of Him
- h. they know from vs. 16-18 Christ's evidential position in the general revelation of Him.

4. What are the Gospel teachings in vs.19-22
 - a. in Him all the fullness should dwell
 - b. by Him to reconcile all things to Himself
 - c. made peace through the blood of His cross
 - d. He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death
 - e. He presents you holy, blameless and above reproach
5. What two things are part of our life in Christ? v. 23
 - a. continue in the faith
 - b. move moved away from the hope of the Gospel
6. List key points Paul says about his ministry. (1 or 2 answers in each verse)
 - a. v.24 rejoice in his sufferings, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking
 - b. v.25 – 26 becoming a minister through the stewardship of God, fulfill the Word
 - c. v. 27 God will to make known
 - d. v. 28 Him we preach, warning everyone, present everyone perfect in Christ
 - e. v. 29 I labor and strive according to His working

Chapter 2 Paul's concern of the Colossians which moves him to give them a warning

1. vs. 1-10

- a. v. 1 Paul's conflict: he has not met them yet
- b. v.2-3 his desire:
 - 1. their hearts may be encouraged
 - 2. knit together in love
 - 3. attaining all riches of understanding
 - 4. knowledge of the mystery of God
- c. v. 4 the warning lest anyone should deceive you
- d. v. 5 what does he rejoice in
 - 1. your good order
 - 2. steadfastness of faith
- e. v. 6 – 7 because they have received Christ they should:
 - 1. walk in Him
 - 2. rooted and built up in Him
 - 3. established in faith
 - 4. abound in thanksgiving
- f. v.8. How can they (and us) be cheated
 - 1. philosophy
 - 2. empty deceit
 - 3. tradition of men
 - 4. basic principles of the world
- g. v.9 what dwells in Christ the fullness of the Godhead bodily
- h. v. 10 what are they in Him complete

vs. 11 – 23

- a. v. 11 Paul's definition of circumcision? Made without hands
- b. v. 12 what does circumcision equal? Baptism
- c. v. 13 because of Baptism what has Christ done and how
 - 1. made you alive
 - 2. forgiven all your trespasses

- d. v. 14 requirements equal law; how has the law been taken away? Nailed it to the cross
- e. v. 15 What has Christ done to principalities and powers.
 - 1. disarmed
 - 2. made a public spectacle of them
 - 3. triumphing over them
- f. v. 16 -17 how are we to not let someone judge us
 - 1. in food or drink
 - 2. festivals, new moons
 - 3. sabbaths
- g. v. 18 -19 How are we to not let someone cheat us
 - 1. to delight in false humility
 - 2. worship angels
 - 3. intruding into things not seen
 - 4. vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind
 - 5. not holding fast to the Head (Christ)
- h. v. 20 -23 If we have died with Christ what regulations are we to watch out for?
 - 1. touch, taste, handle things which perish according to the commandments and doctrines of men
 - 2. appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion
 - 3. false humility
 - 4. neglect of the body
 - 5. no value against the indulgence of the flesh

Chapter 3

1. The life that always looks upward to Christ

- a. v. 1 Since we are raised with Christ: seek the things above
- b. v. 2 “ : set your mind on things above
- c. v. 3 “ : we died and our life is in Christ
- d. v. 4 “ : when He appears we will appear with Him

2. The new life that breaks with the old vices since the new man has been put on.

- a. v. 5 In the new life: deaden yourself to the things tied to the earth - listed
- b. v. 6 “ : we understand that the old life brings the wrath of God
- c. v. 7 “ : we walk and live a different path than we did
- d. v. 8 “ : we are to put off certain things - listed
- e. v. 9 “ : we don't have to live as liars
- f. v. 10 “ : we have to put on a new being in the image of Christ
- g. v. 11 “ : there is no distinction between people, but Christ is all in all

3. The full life of Christian virtues rich in the Word.

- a. v. 12 In the full life as a Christian: we are able to put on - listed
- b. v. 13 “ : we are able to - listed
- c. v. 14 “ : we can above all else put on love
- d. v. 15 1. “ : we are able to let the peace of God rule us
2. “ : we live lives of thanksgiving
- e. v. 16 “ : we let the word of Christ dwell in us richly
- f. v. 17 “ : whatever we do we do in the name of Christ giving
thanks to God

4. The Christian life for the various groups in the congregation.

- a. v. 18 The Christian life for us as groups: wives
- b. v. 19 “ : husbands
- c. v. 20 “ : children
- d. v. 21 “ : fathers
- e. v. 22 “ : servants

Chapter 4

1. vs. 1-6: Features of a Christian life
 - a. v. 1 addressed to masters or employers etc.; what is this a variation of?
see Matt. 7:12
 - b. v. 2 What are we to remain?
 - c. v. 3-4 What does Paul request of the readers?
Can we apply his request to our time?
 - d. v. 5 How should we act?
 - e. v. 6 How should we talk?
2. vs. 7-15 Who are Paul's fellow workers who are being sent to Colosse?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
 - f. Who sends their greetings?
3. vs. 16-18 Conclusion:
 - a. What does Paul ask of the Church?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - b. Who are they to advise?
 - c. How does Paul end the letter?