



*Life is No Joking Matter*  
*Colossians 1:15-23*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the truth of God for a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Genesis 3:1-7, John 4:1-11, 1 Peter 5:8)
  
2. Believing \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the truth.  
(Romans 1:21-25, John 8:43-45)
  
3. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ lie.  
(Colossians 1:22, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 John 3:8)
  
4. Exchange the \_\_\_\_\_ of Satan with the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.  
(Colossians 1:22-23, 2 Corinthians 10:5, Colossians 1:19-20)

**Study Notes April 1, 2018**  
**Colossians 1:15-23 “Life is No Joking Matter”**

What was the best April Fool’s Day joke you ever played on someone? Some people use April 1st to play simple and even hilarious practical jokes on friends and family members. But, there is something quite unique about this day in that we can tell people a story that usually is completely false, and once we have convinced them of the story, we simply say, “April Fool’s.” Thankfully this Easter and every day since Resurrection Day, we can tell people the most amazing story that has ever been told, and it is completely true, historically and spiritually. Telling people the Good News is no joking matter, rather every person’s eternal life hinges upon their hearing, believing and receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Because sin and death are no joking matter, the knowledge of new life in Christ Jesus is no joke.

1. When you think about April Fool’s Day, what is the first thing that comes to mind?
2. In a similar fashion, when you think about the story of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, what is the first thing that comes to you mind?
3. What would be harder for you to do today, tell a stranger an April Fool’s joke or tell them the story of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead? Why?

4. Let’s get practical. What is your best April Fool’s joke? What are some clear Bible verses you could memorize and be ready to share with someone? See Colossians 1:21-22.

5. As you read Colossians 1:19-20, what two true realities gave God pleasure? And what was the consequence of all of this for God and for the believer?

6. As you take a second look at Colossians 1:21, what does Paul teach us “alienated” or separated us from God? How could it be that a person could be what Paul’s calls “enemies” of God in our minds?

7. From reading Colossians 1:22, how did God use Christ to “reconcile” us with himself? What does Paul teach us is the consequence of this reconciliation?

8. Colossians 1:23 begins with the conditional phrase “if you continue in your faith.” Do you understand Paul bringing a challenge, voicing his uncertainty, or clarifying the process we are all in as a matter of fact? See also Luke 8:4-15.

9. As you re-read Colossians 1:15-18, describe how you view Christ in the manger and after the resurrection. How do you view Him the same and how do you view Him differently at the beginning and end of His time on earth?

10. In Colossians 1:18, we read “so that in everything he might have the supremacy.” How does this phrase change the way you view His role in every aspect of your life?