

CALVARY BIBLE CHURCH

Studies in the Book of Colossians

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Text: Colossians

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AN INTRODUCTION TO COLOSSIANS

INTRODUCTION Today we begin one of what are called in the Bible, the Prison epistles. This letter to the Church of Colossae was written by the apostle Paul while imprisoned at Rome. While there, one of his fellow workers a man named Epaphras had come to visit him and to report that a new teaching was invading the church he was serving, and causing great trouble. This new teaching or heresy today is called “Gnosticism. The Gnostics doctrine was a strange blending of some Christian truth, Jewish legalism, Greek philosophy, and Eastern mysticism. Paul writes this letter to correct the false teaching there, especially concerning the Person of Jesus Christ. In doing so we see...

I. THE BACKGROUND OF COLOSSIANS – “Its Origin”

- A) A Look at the Church
- B) A Look at the City

II. THE BASICS OF COLOSSIANS – “Its Occasion”

- A) A Crisis in the Church
- B) The Calamity it Created

III. THE BENEFIT OF COLOSSIANS – “An Outline”

- A) The Truth about Christ
- B) The Teaching about Christians

CONCLUSION: Although this is a short letter, God has placed it in his Word to the church so we can see the problems false teachers create within the church, and how effectively Satan works to distort and destroy God’s people. What Paul teaches throughout this book is absolutely important for every believer to know and understand, first of all about Jesus Christ and who He really is, and then the truth about the cult that depreciated Him, and finally - the path every Christian should take and walk upon to be pleasing to our God and Savior, Jesus Christ. May this study help you to become not only a seasoned saint in knowledge of Christ and His Word, but a faithful, committed saint in serving our great God and King, Jesus Christ.

TEXT FOR MESSAGE

The New International Version

Colossians 1:1–8 (NIV) Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, 2 To the holy and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace and peace to you from God our Father. 3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints— 5 the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel 6 that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God’s grace in all its truth. 7 You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, 8 and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.