

A Survey of the New Testament

Lesson 15: Colossians

“Walk in Christ”

May 15, 2019

Summary: Paul writes to combat heretical teachings in the church and to remind the Colossians of their only true Source of wisdom.

Author: _____

- He identified himself as the author (1:1, 23; 4:18).
- Tradition identifies him as the author..

Important People:

- Paul: The author
- _____: A “faithful minister” to the Colossians (1:7)
- Tychicus: The carrier of the letter (4:7-8; Eph. 6:21)
- _____: A run-away slave from Colossae (4:9; Phil. 10-12)

Recipients:

- Church at _____ (1:1)
- And the surrounding area (4:15-16)
- Colossians and Ephesians were both intended to be “circular” letters.
- Who were the Colossians?
 - 100 miles east of Ephesus
 - The church was not founded by Paul (2:1).
 - It was founded during Paul’s ministry at Ephesus by _____.

Date:

- After Paul’s journey to Rome
- While in _____, Paul continued his ministry (Acts 28:30-31).
- One who was saved under Paul’s ministry was Onesimus.
- Tychicus carried Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon.
- Onesimus went home with _____.
- Colossians and Philemon were probably written slightly after Ephesus.
- Date is approximately AD _____.

Key Theme: Christ’s Identity for Believers

- _____ came to Paul with questions.
- From the content of Colossians, these apparently centered on Christ’s identity.
- The key verse in this theme is _____.
 - Do not be distracted by vain teachings (2:8).
 - Christ is fully God, even in flesh (2:9).

- Do not stray into _____ (2:18).
- Do not fall back into “ordinances” (2:20).

Book Content Overview:

- Paul’s Introduction and Prayer for the Colossians (1:1-14)
 - Introduction (1:1-2)
 - Prayer of _____ (1:3-8)
 - Prayer for growth in _____ of God’s Son (1:9-14)
- Christ: _____ of All (1:15-29)
 - The “First-born” of God (1:15-19)
 - The Reconciliation of salvation (1:20-22)
 - Paul, the minister of the mystery (1:23-29)
- Christ: Source of all _____ (2:1-23).
 - Continue in Christ (2:1-7)
 - Do not follow man’s wisdom (2:8-23).
- Christ: The _____ (3:1-25)
 - Seek heavenly things with eternity in view (3:1-4).
 - Mortify the deeds of the earth (3:5-11).
 - Instead, put on deeds of _____ (3:12-15).
 - Be filled with the Word of Christ (3:16).
 - Do everything for the Lord, knowing that Christ will justly reward good for good and wrong for wrong (3:17-25).
- Conclusion (4:1-18)
 - Masters, treat servants well (4:1)
 - Pray for Paul and his ministry (4:2-4).
 - Live wisely in light of _____ (4:5-6).
 - The carriers of the letter (4:7-9)
 - Concluding greetings (4:10-15)
 - Final instructions (4:16-17)
 - Signature (4:18)

Challenge to Colossians: Christ, the _____

- This *does not* mean He is a created being.
 - He is and always has been equal to God (1:15).
 - He is the Creator and not created (1:16).
- This *is* a reference to Christ’s preeminence.
 - He is the Head of the body-the church (1:18).
 - He is the First Fruits of the resurrection and glorification (1:18).

Application: Do everything heartily as unto the Lord and not unto men.