

The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the **COLOSSIANS**

Colossians 1

1 He thanks God for their faith, 14 describes the true Christ, 21 and encourages them to receive their reconciliation through Christ.

1 ¶ Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Timothy the brother, 2 to the saints and faithful brothers in Christ in Colosse: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and *the* Lord Jesus Christ.

3 ¶ We give thanks to God and *the* Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying continually about you,

4 hearing of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love toward all the saints,

5 because of the hope being laid up for you in Heaven, the *one* which you heard before in the Word of the truth of the gospel,

6 the *one* coming to you, as also in all the world, and it is bearing fruit even also among you, from the day in which you heard and knew the grace of God in truth;

7 even as you also learned from Epaphras our beloved fellow-slave, who is a faithful minister of Christ for you,

8 he also showing to us your love in *the* Spirit.

9 ¶ Because of this also, from the day in which we heard, we do not cease praying on your behalf, and asking that you may be filled *with* the full knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding,

10 *for* you to walk worthily of the Lord unto all pleasing, bearing fruit in every good work and growing into the full knowledge of God;

11 being empowered with all power according to the might of His glory, to all patience and long-suffering with joy;

12 ¶ giving thanks to the Father, who has made us fit for a share of the inheritance of the saints in light,

13 who delivered us out of the authority of darkness, and transferred *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the remission of sins;

15 who is *the* image of the invisible God, *the* First-begotten of all creation.

16 For all things were created in Him, the things in the heavens, and the things on the earth, the visible and the invisible; whether thrones, or lordships, or rulers, or authorities, all things have been created through Him and for Him.

17 And He is before all things, and all things have subsisted in Him.

18 And He is the Head of the body, the Assembly, who is *the* Beginning, *the* First-born out of *the* dead *ones* that He having first place in all things;

19 because all the fullness was pleased to dwell in Him,

20 and through Him making peace by the blood of His cross, to reconcile all things to Himself; through Him, whether the things on the earth, or the things in the heavens.

21 And you then being alienated and a hostile *one* in *your* mind by evil works, but now He reconciled

22 in the body of His flesh, through death, to present you holy and without blemish and irreproachable before Him,

23 if indeed you continue in the faith having been founded and steadfast, and not being moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, the *one* being proclaimed in all the creation under the heaven, of which I, Paul, became a servant.

24 who now rejoice in my sufferings on your behalf and fill up in my flesh the things lacking of the afflictions of Christ on behalf of His body, which *is* the Assembly,

25 of which I became a servant, according to the stewardship of God given to me for you, to fulfill the Word of God,

26 the mystery having been hidden from the ages and from the generations, but now was revealed to His saints;

27 to whom God willed to make known what *are* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the nations, who is Christ in you, the hope of glory;

28 whom we proclaim, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man full-grown in Christ Jesus,

29 for which also I labor, struggling according to the working of Him, the *One* working in me in power.

Colossians 2

He persuades them to be constant in Christ.

1 ¶ For I want you to know how great a struggle I have concerning you, and those in Laodicea, and as many as have not seen my face in *the* flesh,

2 that their hearts may be comforted, being joined together in love, and to all riches of the full assurance of the understanding, to *the* full knowledge of the mystery of God, even of *the* Father and of Christ,

3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and of knowledge.

4 ¶ And I say this that no one may beguile you with persuasive speech.

5 For though I am indeed absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing and seeing your order and the firmness of your faith into Christ.

6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

7 having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being confirmed in the faith, even as you were taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

8 Watch that there will not be one abducting you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ.

9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;

10 and having been filled, you are in Him, who is the Head of all rule and authority,

11 in whom also you were circumcised with a circumcision not made by hands, in

the putting off of the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,

12 having been buried together with Him in baptism, in whom also you were raised through the faith of the working of God, the *One* having raised Him from among the dead *ones*.

13 ¶ And you, being a dead *one* in the deviations and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made alive together with Him, having remitted all your deviations,

14 blotting out the handwriting in the ordinances against us, which was contrary to us, even *He* has taken it out of the midst, nailing it to the cross;

15 having stripped the rulers and the authorities, He made a show of them in freely speaking, triumphing *over* them in it.

16 ¶ Therefore do not let anyone judge you in eating, or in drinking, or in part, of a feast, or of a new moon, or of sabbaths,

17 which are a shadow of coming things, but the body *is* of Christ.

18 Let no one rule against you, willing in humility and worship of the angels, intruding into things which he has not seen, being puffed up by the mind of his flesh without cause,

19 and not holding fast the Head, from whom all the body being supplied *through* the joints and bands, and being joined together, will grow with the growth of God.

20 If, then, you died with Christ from the elements of the world, why are you under *its* decrees, as living in *the* world?

21 Touch not, taste not, handle not,

22 which things are all for corruption in the using, according to the “injunctions and teachings of men.” *Isa. 29:13*

23 Which things indeed are a matter of having wisdom in self-imposed worship and humility, and severity *in* abuse of the body, *but* *are* not of any honor unto gratification of the flesh.

Colossians 3

1 He advises to charity, humility, and other duties.

1 ¶ Therefore if you were raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is sitting at *the* right of God; *Psa. 110:1*

2 Be mindful of the things above, not the things on the earth.

3 For you died, and your life has been hidden with Christ in God.

4 Whenever Christ our life is revealed, then also you will be revealed with Him in glory.

5 ¶ Therefore put to death your members which *are* on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion; bad lust, and covetousness, which is idolatry;

6 on account of which things the wrath of God is coming on the sons of disobedience,

7 among whom you also walked once when you were living in these.

8 ¶ But now, you also, put off all *these* things: wrath, anger, malice, foul-speaking, shameful speech out of your mouth.

9 Do not lie to one another, having put off the old man with his practices,

10 and having put on the new, being renewed unto full knowledge according to *the* image of the *One* creating him,

11 where there is no Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, foreigner, Scythian, slave *or* free man, but Christ *is* all things and in all.

12 ¶ Therefore, as elect *ones* of God, holy and beloved, put on bowels of compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, long-suffering,

13 bearing with one another and forgiving yourselves, if anyone has a complaint against any; even as Christ forgave you, so also you *should* forgive.

14 But above all these, *put on* love, which is *the* bond of perfection.

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which you also were called in one body, and *coming to be* thankful.

16 Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, in all wisdom teaching and admonishing yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

17 And every *thing*, whatever you do in word or in work, *do* all things in the name of *the* Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and *the* Father through Him.

18 ¶ Wives, be subject to *your* own husbands, as is becoming in *the* Lord.

19 Husbands, love the wives and do not be bitter against them.

20 Children, obey the parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord.

21 Fathers, do not provoke to anger your children, that they may not be disheartened.

22 Slaves, obey the masters according to flesh in all respects, not with eye-service as men-pleasers, but in simplicity of heart, fearing God.

23 And every *thing*, whatever you may do, work from the soul as to the Lord and not to men,

24 knowing that from the Lord you shall receive the reward of the inheritance. For you serve *the* Lord Christ.

25 But the *one* doing wrong will receive back what he did wrong, and there is no partiality.

Colossians 4

He persuades them to be fervent in prayer.

1 ¶ Masters, give what *is* the just and the equality to the slaves, knowing that you have a Master in Heaven also.

2 ¶ Steadfastly continue in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving,

3 praying together about us also, that God may open to us a door of the Word, to speak the mystery of Christ, on account of which I also have been bound,

4 that I may make it clear, as I ought to speak.

5 ¶ Walk in wisdom toward the *ones* outside, redeeming the time.

6 Let your word *be* always with grace, having been seasoned with salt, to know how you ought to answer each one.

7 ¶ All the things about me, Tychicus the beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow-slave in *the* Lord, will make known to you,

8 whom I sent to you for this very thing, that he *might* know the things about you, and that he might comfort your hearts,

9 with Onesimus the faithful and beloved brother, who is of you. They will make known to you all the things here.

10 Aristarchus, my fellow prisoner, greets you, also Mark the nephew of Barnabas, about whom you received orders. If he comes to you, receive him.

11 And Jesus, the *one* being called Justus, the *ones* being of the circumcision, *greet*

you, these only fellow workers for the kingdom of God, who became a comfort to me.

12 Epaphras greets you, he of you, a slave of Christ, always striving for you in prayers, that you may stand full-grown and being complete in all *the* will of God.

13 For I bear witness to him, that he has much zeal on your behalf, and the *ones* in Laodicea, and the *ones* in Hierapolis.

14 Luke the beloved physician greets you, also Demas.

15 Greet the brothers in Laodicea, and Nymphas and the assembly in his house.

16 And when this letter is read before you, cause that it be read also in the Laodicean assembly, and that you also read the *one* of Laodicea.

17 And say to Archippus, Look to the ministry which you received in *the* Lord, that you may fulfill it.

18 The greeting by my hand, Paul. Remember my bonds. Grace *be* with you. Amen.