

Jesus Makes A Difference

Colossians 1:1-8

A. Introduction and Overview (1:1-2)

1. Genre – New Testament _____

- Why does this matter?

2. Author – _____

- What do we know about him?

3. Recipients – _____

- How can you relate?

4. Setting

- Date: approx. _____ A.D.
- Written: from _____ in Rome, to the saints who live in _____, a city in the Roman province Asia, near Laodicea and Hierapolis, about 100 miles east of Ephesus.
- Religious culture: _____ with elements of paganism, secular philosophy, mystical cults, and Jewish legalism.

5. Theme – Jesus Is _____

Colossians Book Chart

	Exaltation of Jesus Christ and the believer's connection to Him			Application of Jesus Christ to the life of a believer			
Greeting 1:1-2	Doctrine 1:3-23	Concern 1:24-2:7	Warning 2:8-23	Exhortation 3:1-17	Instruction 3:18-4:1	Reminders 4:2-6	Salutations 4:7-18
Chapter 1-2				Chapter 3-4			
Theme: Jesus is Enough							

- Repeated ideas:
 - Completeness, fullness, perfection (1:9, 10, 19, 24, 25, 28; 2:2, 9-10; 3:14)
 - Lordship of Jesus Christ, our service to Him (1:3, 13, 18, 28; 2:15; 3:1, 17, 23-24; 4:17)
 - Thanksgiving (1:3, 12, 24; 2:7; 3:5, 15, 16; 4:2)

B. Prayer of thanksgiving (1:3-8)

1. To whom? (v3)

2. How often? (v3)

**** God wants us to pray to Him all the time. ****

(See Luke 11:9-13; 18:1-6, Philippians 4:6-9, Colossians 4:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, James 1:5)

3. On what occasion? (v4)

4. For what reason? (v5-8)

Paul and Timothy gave thanks “because of the _____” which belongs to all believers.

a) Where is this hope? (compare 1 Peter 1:3-5)

b) How does a person hear about this hope? (compare 1 Corinthians 1:18, 15:3-4)

c) What must be understood about God to acquire this hope? (compare Ephesians 2:8-9)

d) Who brings the message of hope to people? (compare 2 Corinthians 5:18-21)

Something worthy of meditation:

Consider the immense value of a person having a confident hope that he or she will be with the Lord forever because the truth of the gospel was believed.