

P.T. BIBLE SURVEY

The Epistle of Paul to the Colossians

THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS

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- ◉ Who wrote it?
 - Paul is the writer of this epistle with some assistance from Timothy (1:1).

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- ◉ Date of writing:
 - Around A.D. 60-61.

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◉ Surrounding Circumstances:

- Colossians is the third of four “Prison Epistles” written by Paul. The others are Ephesians, Philippians and Philemon.
- Many believe Paul wrote this letter to combat concepts that later grew into a heretical movement known as Gnosticism.

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◎ Location of Events:

- Paul wrote Colossians from a prison in Rome approximately 1294 miles away from the city of Colossae.
- Tychicus and Onesimus delivered Paul's letter from Rome to Colossae (Col. 4:7-9).

THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS

Overview of the Acts of the Apostles



THE OUTLINE OF COLOSSIANS

I. The Supremacy of Christ (1:1-2:23)

- Paul's Greeting (1:1-14)
- The preeminence of Christ (1:15-2:3)
- The Freedom in Christ (2:4-23)

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- The Freedom in Christ (2:4-23)

II. Submission to Christ in the Church (3:1-4:18)

- The Position of the Believer (3:1-4)
- The Practice of the Believer (3:5-4:6)
- Conclusion (4:7-18)

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- ◎ Summary in 10 words or less:
 - Jesus Christ is supreme—over everyone and everything.

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◎ Cast of Characters:

- **Paul:** an apostle of Christ by the will of God
- **Epaphras:** brought the gospel to the Colossians
- **Aristarchus:** a fellow prisoner of Paul's
- **Jesus, called Justus:** a Jewish Christian who was a great comfort to Paul
- **Archippus:** should complete the work the Lord set him to do
- **The Colossians:** Should clothe themselves with virtues and cover them with love

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Verse to Remember

“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.”

(Colossians 3:1)

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◉ Interesting Facts:

- The city of Colossae:
 - Was located about 100 miles east of Ephesus.
 - Was located in the region of the Seven Churches of Asia.
 - Was a populous commerce center, famous for its glossy black wool.
- The church at Colossae was established by Epaphras (1:7). At the time of the Colossians letter, Paul had not visited Colossae.

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- What is my take away?
 - Man will always fail in his attempt to diminish the work of Christ. As believers we must continue to unapologetically stand for the gospel and look to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith (Heb. 12:2).

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◉ Home Study

- Read a couple chapters daily in 1 Thessalonians this week.
- Review your One-Sentence Summaries.
- Recite your memory verses.