COLOSSIANS

Forming Christ in the Believer

"And he is before all things, and by him all things consist."

COLOSSIANS 1:17

Forming Christ in the Believer

(Colossians Intro-1:2)

"The Gospel Light in the Lycus Valley"

Outline:

1. The context of Colossians
2. The reasons for studying Colossians
3. The outline for Colossians

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1- The context of Colossians –

Five introductory areas:

1) Paul

- Jewish born; Roman citizen (Phil. 3:5)
- Zealous and well trained (Gal. 1:14; Acts 22:3)
- Persecutor of the Church (Acts 7:58-8:3)
- Called to be Apostle to Gentiles (Acts 9:1-6, 15-16; Gal. 2:7-9)
- Evangelist and Missionary (Acts 19:1-10)

1- The context of Colossians –

Five introductory areas:

1) Paul

2) Timothy

- Grew up with Hebrew Scriptures. (2 Tim. 1:5; 3:15
- Galatian disciple. (Acts 14:1-7; 16:1-5)
- Ministry partner of Paul.
- Assigned to Ephesus for a season.

1- The context of Colossians –

Five introductory areas:

1) Paul

2) Timothy

3) The saints

- "Saints" (ἁγίοις) = one who is set apart
- Contextually, this is positional!
- Notice 1:4-5
- This letter is written to specific believers!
- This letter is written for all believers!

1- The context of Colossians –

The named saints in the Lycus Valley:

1) Epaphras
   - Fellow servant 1:7
   - Fellow believer 4:12
   - Fellow prisoner Philemon 23

2) Onesimus 4:9

3) Nymphas (house church cf. 4:15)

1- The context of Colossians –

Five introductory areas:

1) Paul
2) Timothy
3) The saints
4) Colosse

- Primary location is Colosse.
- Secondary locations are Laodicea, and Hierapolis (2:1; 4:13, 16)
- 100 miles East of Ephesus
- Not directly ministered to by Paul


ILLYRICUM
(DALMATIA)
MOESIA
Adriatic Sea
Rome
Black Sea
THRACE
MACEDONIA
ITALY
Philippi
Thessalonica
BITHYNIA
PONTUS
Troas
GALATIA
Aegean
Sea
CAPPADOCIA
ASIA
ACHAIA
Antioch
Hierapolis
Iconium
Laodicea
Lystra
SICILY
Corinth
Colosse
Derbe
Cenchrea
Ephesus
Athens
CILICIA
PAMPHYLIA
MALTA
LYCIA
Antioch
CRETE
The Great Sea
(Mediterranean)
CYPRUS
KEY PLACES IN PAUL'S MINISTRY
MILES
0
100
200
300
Caesarea
Jerusalem
EGYPT

1- The context of Colossians –

Five introductory areas:

1) Paul
2) Timothy
3) The saints
4) Colosse
5) God

- Grace to you
- and peace
- From God our Father
- and the Lord Jesus Christ

Outline:

1. The context of Colossians
2. The reasons for studying Colossians
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2- The reasons for studying Colossians –

At Least Five Reasons:

1) It is one of the 66 inspired books God gave to man.

2) Colossians emphasizes the preeminence of Christ.

3) Colossians underscores the sufficiency of Christ.

4) Colossians is essential for Christology.

5) Colossians is essential for Christian practice.

Outline:

1. The context of Colossians
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3- The outline for Colossians –

"Outline":

- Greetings 1:1-2
- Cause and opportunity of thanksgiving 1:3-8
- Need for supplication and admonition 1:9-14
- The preeminence of Christ 1:15-18
- Reconciliation through the incarnate Christ 1:19-23
- The Apostolic ministry of Paul 1:24-29
- Paul's instruction and warnings 2:1-4:6
- Paul's logistical instruction and greetings 4:7-18

3- The outline for Colossians –

Paul's Instruction and Warnings 2:1-4:6:

- The need for instruction vv. 1-5
- Concerning HVP wisdom vv. 6-10
- Concerning Judaized, gnostic legalism vv. 11-23
- Concerning carnality and identity in Christ 3:1-11
- Concerning the conduct of the New man 3:12-17
- Concerning conduct within social dynamics 3:18-4:6

Application/Summary:

- Have I believed in Christ?
- Do I understand the preeminence of Christ?
- Do I understand the sufficiency of Christ?



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