

COLOSSIANS

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INTRODUCTION

1. A city of Phrygia on the Lycus River. About 10 mi. from Laodicea.
 2. As far as we know Paul never visited the city. Possible Epaphras labored there.
 3. A city it was partly Jewish and partly pagan.
 4. Was written by Paul while he was in prison (4:10, 18) about 62 A.D.
 5. Was written to deal with "The Colossian Error" or heresy.
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ORIGIN OF THE ERROR

- A. The heyday of Greek philosophy had passed away.
 1. It is a period that has been called "a failure of nerve." It was an age of superstition and fear.
 2. Man's place in the universe was insecure.
 3. The heavenly bodies were often thought of as affecting the welfare and destiny of human beings.
 4. By superior knowledge man might be able to cancel the bad and by the adoration of angels receive help.
 - B. THE DISTANT GOD:
 1. God's dealing with this wicked and sinful world was "second hand."
 2. That is He dealt through mediation of angels, aeons, or elemental spirits.
 3. Thus the easiest way for man to please God was to reverse this order.
 - C. "SYNCRETISM"
 1. The outcome of these various conditions was the phenomenon known as "syncretism". The blending of all known religions with one another and with the ideas of philosophy.
 2. It was the an age of religious experiment.
 - D. THE EFFECT ON CHRISTIANITY:
 1. It became Christ plus, instead of Christ period.
 2. Colossians is Paul's inspired word to show why it ought to be Christ Period. That Christ is ABSOLUTELY pre-eminent and ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE.
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QUESTIONS

- A. QUESTIONS THAT AGAIN NEED TO BE ANSWERED!
 1. What think ye of the Christ?
 2. What think ye of sound doctrine?
 3. What think ye of Christ's church.
 4. What think ye of the ancient gospel?
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SOME DOCTRINAL MATTERS

A. RELATIVE TO THE FATHER:

1. He has made us meet to be partakers of the saints of light.
2. He hath delivered us from the power of darkness.
3. He hath translated us into the kingdom of the Son of His love.

B. RELATIVE TO THE SON:

1. We have redemption in Him, we have been delivered from our sins in Him.
2. He is the image of the invisible God.
3. He is the Son, is the source of all created things.
4. He is the Head of God's spiritual creation, the church (1;18).

C. IT PLEASSED THE FATHER THAT:

1. In the Son all the fulness should dwell.
 2. That through the Son He would reconcile all things unto Himself. (1:20-23).
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Paul's Plea For The Church

1. "Let no man cause you to be moved away from the gospel" (1:23)
 2. "Let no man delude you with his persuasiveness of speech" (2:4)
 3. "Let no man make spoil of you through his philosophy and vain deceit" (2:8)
 4. "Let no man judge you in matters of opinion" (2:16).
 5. "Let no man rob you of your prize" (2:18).
 6. "Let no man induce you to follow human ordinances, doctrines and commandments" (2:20-23).
 7. "Let no man lead you back into worldly immoralities" (3:5-10).
 8. "Let no man lead you into unspiritual attitudes in brotherly relationships (3:12-15).
 9. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly" (3:16).
 10. "Let everything be done by the authority of Jesus Christ" (3:17).
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