

February 2019 – Education Month

The Epistle of Colossians - Reading Plan



Author: Paul

Theme: The Supremacy and Sufficiency of Jesus Christ

Date: About A.D. 61

Key Words: Fulness, Wisdom, Knowledge, Mystery

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|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Fri 1 st | Sat 2 nd | Sun 3 rd | Mon 4 th | Tue 5 th | Wed 6 th | Thurs 7 th |
| 1:1 - 8 | 1:9 - 14 | 1:15 - 18 | 1:19 - 28 | 1:29 - 2:7 | 2:8 - 15 | 2:16 - 19 |
| Fri 8 th | Sat 9 th | Sun 10 th | Mon 11 th | Tue 12 th | Wed 13 th | Thurs 14 th |
| 2:20 - 3:3 | 3:4 - 11 | 3:12 - 17 | 3:18 - 25 | 4:1 - 6 | 4:7 - 15 | 4:16 - 18 |
| Fri 15 th | Sat 16 th | Sun 17 th | Mon 18 th | Tue 19 th | Wed 20 th | Thurs 21 st |
| 1:1 - 8 | 1:9 - 14 | 1:15 - 18 | 1:19 - 28 | 1:29 - 2:7 | 2:8 - 15 | 2:16 - 19 |
| Fri 22 nd | Sat 23 rd | Sun 24 th | Mon 25 th | Tue 26 th | Wed 27 th | Thurs 28 th |
| 2:20 - 3:3 | 3:4 - 11 | 3:12 - 17 | 3:18 - 25 | 4:1 - 6 | 4:7 - 15 | 4:16 - 18 |

Miracles of Jesus – Sunday School and Bible Study

Sunday 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th February, 10:30 am to 11:15 am | Wednesday 3th, 13th, 20th & 27th February 2018 at 7:30 pm

More Fruit In 2019

Bearing fruit is not only about what we do; it is about who we ARE



John 15:1-10

The Epistle of Paul to the Colossians

Occasion and Purpose

Sometime during Paul's imprisonment, Epaphras solicited his help in dealing with false teaching which threatened the church at Colosse (2:8, 9). This heresy was apparently a blend of pagan-occultism, Jewish legalism, and Christianity. The error resembles an early form of Gnosticism, which taught that Jesus was not fully God and fully man, but merely one of the semidivine beings that bridged the chasm between God and the world. He, therefore, was said to be lacking in authority and ability to meet the needs of the Colossians. Enlightened believers could, however, achieve spiritual fulness through special knowledge and rigorous self-discipline.

With an urgency heightened by the repatriation of the runaway slave, Onesimus, to his master Philemon at Colosse, Paul wrote the epistle with a fourfold purpose: **1)** to expose and rebut heresy; **2)** to instruct the Colossians in the truth and alert them to the danger of returning to pagan vices; **3)** to express personal interest in the believers; **4)** to inspire them to promote mutual love and harmony.

Personal Application

Because this is an age of religious pluralism and syncretism (that is, a diluting of truth for the sake of unity), Christ's lordship is deemed irrelevant by many religious groups that believe one religion is as good as the other. Christ's pre-eminence is denied by others that place the Christian stamp upon fusion of beliefs from several religions. Usually hailed as an advance beyond apostolic Christianity, this blend promises self-fulfilment and freedom without surrender to Christ.

"Jesus is Lord" is the church's earliest confession. It remains the abiding test of authentic Christianity. Neither the church nor the individual believer can afford to compromise Christ's deity. In His sovereignty lies His sufficiency. Jesus will be Lord of everything or not Lord at all. The lordship of Christ in the believer's life is the most crucial and clearest evidence of the Holy Spirit's presence.

Spirit Filled Life Bible NKJV 1991

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John 15:1-10

MEMORY CHALLENGE – *to recite on Sunday 24th February 2019***Colossians 2:6 - 17 (NKJV)*****Not Philosophy but Christ***

⁶ As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, ⁷ rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

⁸ Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; ¹⁰ and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

Not Legalism but Christ

¹¹ In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with *Him* through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. ¹³ And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, ¹⁴ having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. ¹⁵ Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

¹⁶ So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, ¹⁷ which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.