

Ch. I The Preeminence of Christ, V. 18

I. Christ Preeminent in Human Relations vv. 12, 13, 18.

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS.

CHAPTER I.

The apostle thanketh God for their faith, &c.

1 **PAUL**, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus ^c our brother, **2** To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 ^h We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints,

5 For ^k the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in ^l the word of the truth of the gospel;

6 Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew ^m the grace of God in truth:

7 As ye also learned of ⁿ Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ;

8 Who also declared unto you your ^o love in the Spirit.

9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in ^p all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord ^h unto ^q all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

11 Strengthened with ^r all might, according to his glorious power, unto ^s all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the

inheritance of the saints in light:

13 Who hath delivered us from ^b the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of ² his ^d dear Son:

14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even ^t the forgiveness of sins:

15 Who is ^v the image of ^w the invisible God, ^x the firstborn of every creature:

16 For ^y by him were ^z all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be ^{aa} thrones, or ^{ab} dominions, or ^{ac} principalities, or powers: all things were created ^{ad} by him, and for him:

17 And ^{ae} he is before ^{af} all things, and by him all things consist:

18 And ^{ag} he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, ^{ah} the firstborn from the dead; that ^{ai} in ^{aj} all things he might have the preeminence.

19 For ^{ak} it pleased the Father that ^{al} in him should ^{am} all ^{an} fulness dwell;

20 And, ^{ao} having made peace through ^{ap} the blood of his cross, ^{aq} by him to reconcile ^{ar} all things unto himself; by him, ^{as} I say, whether ^{at} they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

21 And you, that were sometime alienated and ^{at} enemies ^{au} in your mind ^{av} by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

22 In the body of his flesh through death, ^{aw} to present you ^{ax} holy and unblameable and unrep^{ay}vable in his sight:

23 If ye continue in the faith ^{az} grounded and settled, and be not moved away from ^{ba} the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and ^{bb} which was preached to every creature

God's image

first cause

By Him all things stand or are held together

Christ Preeminent in Christian experience - attaining Christian Perfection
V. 12-17

II. Christ Preeminent in the redemption of man
vv. 12-14

III. Christ Preeminent in Creation
vv. 15-17

IV. Christ Preeminent in The Church
vv. 18-20

^a To ver. 2. Eph. 1. 1, 2. Luke 22. 53. Heb. 13. 23. Gr. the Son of his love. d Mat. 3. 17. Eph. 1. 6. Eph. 1. 7. f 1 Cor. 1. 4. g 2 Tim. 1. 17. h To ver. 4. Eph. 1. 20. i Rev. 17. 18. Rev. 3. 14. j John 1. 3. k ver. 23. l Tit. 2. 13. m Cp. Ezek. 10. 1. n Eph. 1. 22. o Cp. 2. 20, 25. p Eph. 3. 10. q Rom. 11. 36. r John 1. 1. s ver. 23. t Eph. 2. 14. u Eph. 1. 23. v Cp. Acts 13. 43. w Cor. 6. 2. x Jude 3. s. y Rom. 8. 29. z Heb. 1. 6. aa Rev. 1. 5. ab Cp. 2. 5. ac 1 Cor. 15. 20. ad Or, among all. ae ch. 4. 12. af Philem. 23. ag Cp. Luke 22. 32. ah ch. 2. 9. ai Eph. 1. 23. aj Or, making peace. ak Rom. 15. 30. al Rom. 5. 10. am 2 Cor. 5. 18. an 1 John 2. 2. ao Eph. 2. 1, 2. ap Rom. 5. 10. aqu Eph. 2. 15, 16. ar Or, by your mind as wicked works. at Tit. 1. 16. au 2 Thes. 4. 1. av Rom. 7. 4. aw Cp. Eph. 2. 15, 16. ax Eph. 1. 4. ay Jude 24. az Eph. 3. 16. ba 1 John 5. 27. bb Acts 11. 23. bc Rom. 2. 7. bd Eph. 3. 17. be ver. 5. bf ch. 2. 17. bg Mark 16. 15.

IV. Christ Preeminent in The Church
vv. 18-20

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Hi. Perils to Security in Christ -
 1. Peril of enticing words v. 4, 3, 8, 18

An exhortation to **COLOSSIANS 2.** *constancy in Christ.*

which is under heaven; ^a where-
 of I Paul am made a minister;
 24 ^b Who now rejoice in my
 sufferings for you, and fill up
^c that which is behind of the
 afflictions of Christ in my flesh
 for ^d his body's sake, which is
 the church:

25 Whereof I am made a
 minister, according to ^f the dis-
 pensation of God which is given
 to me for you, ^g to fulfil the
 word of God;

26 Even ^h the mystery which
 hath been hid from ages and
 from generations, but now is
 made manifest to his saints:

27 ^k To whom God would make
 known what ^l is ^m the riches
 of the glory of this mystery among
 the Gentiles; which is Christ
ⁿ in you, ^o the hope of glory:

28 Whom we preach, warning
 every man, and teaching every
 man in all wisdom; that we
 may present every man perfect
 in Christ Jesus:

29 Whereunto I also labour,
 striving according to his work-
 ing, which worketh in me
 mightily.

30 He exhorteth them to be constant in Christ,
 to beware of philosophy, and vain tradi-
 tions.

FOR I would that ye knew
 what great ³ conflict I have
 for you, and for them at ⁴ Lao-
 dicea, and for as many as have
 not seen my face in the flesh;
 2 That their hearts might be
 comforted, being knit together
 in love, and unto all riches of
⁵ the full assurance of under-
 standing, to the acknowledge-
 ment of ⁶ the mystery of ⁷ God,
 and of the Father, and of
 Christ;

3 In whom are hid all the
 treasures of ⁸ wisdom and know-
 ledge.

4 And this I say, lest any man
 should beguile you with enticing
 words.

5 For though I be absent in

the flesh, yet am I with you in
 the spirit, joying and beholding
 your order, and the steadfast-
 ness of your faith in Christ.

6 As ye have therefore recei-
 ved Christ Jesus the Lord, so
 walk ye in him:

7 ⁹ Rooted and built up in him,
 and established in the faith, as
 ye have been taught, abounding
 therein with thanksgiving.

8 Beware lest any man spoil
 you through philosophy and
 vain deceit, after ¹⁰ the tradition
 of men, after the ¹¹ rudiments
 of the world, and not after Christ.

9 For in him ¹² dwelleth all the
¹³ fulness of the Godhead bodily.

10 And ¹⁴ ye are complete in
 him, ¹⁵ which is the head of all
¹⁶ principality and power:

11 In whom also ye are circum-
 cised with ¹⁷ the circumcision
 made without hands, ¹⁸ in put-
 ting off the body of the sins of
 the flesh by the circumcision of
 Christ:

12 Buried with him in baptism,
 wherein also ¹⁹ ye are risen with
 him through the faith of the
 operation of God, who hath
 raised him from the dead.

13 ²⁰ And you, being dead in
 your sins and the uncircumcision
 of your flesh, hath he quickened
 together with him, ²¹ having for-
 given you all trespasses;

14 ²² Blotting out the handwrit-
 ing of ²³ ordinances that was a-
 gainst us, which was contrary
 to us, and took it out of the
 way, nailing it to his cross;

15 ²⁴ And ²⁵ having spoiled princi-
 palities and powers, he made a
 shew of them openly, triumph-
 ing over them ²⁶ in it.

16 Let no man therefore judge
 you ²⁷ in meat, or in drink, or ²⁸ in
 respect of ²⁹ an holyday, or of
³⁰ the new moon, or of the sab-
 bath days:

17 Which are ³¹ a shadow of
 things to come; but ³² the body
 is of Christ.

18 Let no man ³³ beguile you of

*Peril of
 rationalizing
 the Word
 v. 8 -
 (reason as the
 Supreme Authority)*

*The operation
 of God
 operation
 of man
 3. Peril of
 C.T. ceremonial
 v. 14-17*

*Ch. 2. Security in Christ v. 7
 CHAPTER 2, See P. 27*

*I. Elements of
 Security in Christ's
 Faith
 Rooted in Christ v. 7*

*A bound in
 thanksgiving v. 7*

*knit together
 in love: v. 2*

^a ver. 25.
^b Eph. 3. 7.
^c Mat. 5. 12.
^d Phil. 2. 17.
^e 2 Cor. 1. 5.
^f Cp.
^g 2 Tim. 1. 8.
^h Eph. 1. 23.
ⁱ ch. 1. 23.
^j Eph. 3. 17.
^k 1 Cor. 9. 17.
^l Eph. 3. 2.
^m 2 Or, fully
 to preach
 the word
 of God.
ⁿ Rom. 15. 19.
^o Rom. 16. 25.
^p 26.
^q h. ver. 22.
^r Gal. 1. 14.
^s 3 Or,
 elements.
 ver. 20.
^t John 1. 14.
^u Eph. 3. 3.
^v ch. 1. 29.
^w Eph. 1. 7.
^x 28.
^y John 2. 16.
^z Eph. 3. 19.
^{aa} Mat. 23. 23.
^{ab} Eph. 1. 21.
^{ac} 2 ver. 15.
^{ad} ch. 1. 16.
^{ae} 4 Or,
 amongst
 you.
 ver. 28.
^{af} 1 Tim. 1. 1.
^{ag} Acts 15. 1.
^{ah} Rom. 2. 29.
^{ai} Rom. 6. 6.
^{aj} Eph. 4. 22.
^{ak} 7 Or, 6. 4.
^{al} ch. 3. 1.
^{am} Rom. 6. 5.
^{an} 2 Eph. 2. 5.
^{ao} 6 Or, fear,
 or, care,
 Is. 7. 23.
^{ap} v ch. 4. 13.
^{aq} 15, 16.
^{ar} Rom. 7. 4.
^{as} Eph. 2. 15.
^{at} 16.
^{au} 4 ver. 20.
^{av} Luke 2. 1.
^{aw} 3 Cp.
^{ax} Gen. 3. 15.
^{ay} 2 Thes. 1. 5.
^{az} Heb. 6. 11.
^{ba} d ch. 4. 3.
^{bb} 1 Cor. 4. 2.
^{bc} 2 Cor. 15.
^{bd} 24.
^{be} 6 Or, in
 himself.
^{bf} 2 Or, for
 eating and
 drinking.
^{bg} 8 Or,
 in part.
^{bh} 2 Cor. 3. 20.
^{bi} 9 Or,
 wherein.
^{bj} Lev. 23. 2.
^{bk} 2 Cor. 1. 24.
^{bl} Num. 28.
^{bm} 11.
^{bn} 4 Heb. 8. 5.
^{bo} h Cp. ver. 9.
^{bp} 2 Or, judge
 against
 you.

H. The Peril of Gnosticism = Pertaining to Knowledge of I Cor. 1.
v. 21 (fleshly mind)

An exhortation to COLOSSIANS 3. holiness, charity, &c.

your reward ² in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

19 And not holding ^e the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

20 Wherefore ^h if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,

21 ^e Touch not; ^g taste not; handle not;

22 Which all are to perish with the using; after the commandments and doctrines of men?

23 Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in ⁱ will worship, and ^j humility, and ^k neglecting of the body; not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.

CHAPTER 3.

^l He sheweth where we should seek Christ: to exhorteth to put off the old man, and put on Christ, &c.

^m IF ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your ⁿ affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For ^o ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

4 When Christ, ^p who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him ^q in glory.

5 ^r Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; ^s fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, ^t which is idolatry:

6 ^u For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

² Gr. being a voluntary in humility.
³ ver. 23.
^a Eph. 4. 31.
^b Eph. 4. 29 & 5. 4.
^c Lev. 19. 11.
^d Eph. 4. 25.
^e Rom. 6. 6.
^f Eph. 4. 15, 16.
^g Rom. 6. 4.
^h Rom. 8. 29.
ⁱ ch. 3. 3.
^j Rom. 6. 2.
^k Rom. 1. 16.
^l 1 Cor. 12. 13.
^m Gal. 5. 6 & 5. 15.
ⁿ Or, elements.
^o ver. 8.
^p Gal. 4. 9.
^q Eph. 1. 23.
^r Luke 18. 7.
^s 1 Cor. 7. 1. Cp.
^t 1 Tim. 4. 3. ver. 16.
^u Luke 1. 78. Phil. 2. 1.
^v Eph. 4. 32.
^w Eph. 4. 2.
^x ver. 18.
^y Eph. 4. 2.
^z Or, complaint.
^{aa} Or, purifying, or, not sparing.
^{ab} John 13. 34. Rom. 13. 8.
^{ac} Phil. 4. 7.
^{ad} 1 Cor. 7. 15.
^{ae} 1 Cor. 10. 17.
^{af} Eph. 2. 16.
^{ag} ch. 2. 12.
^{ah} Or, mind.
^{ai} Rom. 8. 5.
^{aj} Phil. 3. 19.
^{ak} Eph. 5. 19.
^{al} ch. 2. 20.
^{am} Rom. 6. 2.
^{an} ver. 23.
^{ao} 1 Cor. 10. 31.
^{ap} John 11. 25. Cp.
^{aq} 1 Cor. 15. 45.
^{ar} 1 John 2. 28 & 3. 2.
^{as} 1 Cor. 15. 43. Cp.
^{at} Phil. 3. 21.
^{au} Rom. 8. 13.
^{av} Gal. 5. 24.
^{aw} Rom. 6. 13.
^{ax} To ch. 4. 1.
^{ay} Eph. 5. 22-6. 9.
^{az} Eph. 5. 3.
^{ba} Eph. 5. 25.
^{bb} 23. 33.
^{bc} Eph. 4. 31.
^{bd} Eph. 5. 5.
^{be} Eph. 6. 1.
^{bf} Eph. 5. 6.
^{bg} Eph. 2. 2.
^{bh} Eph. 6. 4.

8 But now ye also put off all these; ^a anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, ^b filthy communication out of your mouth.

9 ^c Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off ^d the old man with his deeds;

10 And have put on ^e the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after ^f the image of him that created him:

11 Where there is neither ^g Greek nor Jew, ^h circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ ⁱ is all, and in all.

12 Put on therefore, as ^j the elect of God, holy and beloved, ^k bowels of mercies, ^l kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13 ^m Forbearing one another, and ⁿ forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14 And above all these things put on ^o charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15 And let ^p the peace of God rule in your hearts, ^q to the which also ye are called ^r in one body; and be ye thankful.

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another ^s in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

17 And ^t whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

18 ^u Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

19 ^v Husbands, love your wives, and ^w be not bitter against them.

20 ^x Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

21 ^y Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

III Identified with Christ in inner life experiences. vv. 15-17

One of the heaviest loads a person can carry around is a chip on the shoulder

Our area in which the above qualities are tested

5. Peril of Mysticism

6. Peril of Asceticism
4. 23

Christ Identified with Christ.

J. I Identified with Christ in position. vv. 1-4

1. Risen with Him v. 1

2. Affection on things above v. 2

3. Dead with Him v. 3

4. Hid with Him v. 3

5. Appear with Him v. 4

II. Identified with Christ in Character.

vv. 5-14

II. Identified with Christ in human relationships. v. 18-4:1

1. Family relationships v. 15-21

2. Servant - Master relationships

1. Servant is doing service for Christ

- Be Obedient

- Be whole hearted with good will

- Expect divine approval & a divine reward

Divers precepts v. 22-4:1

22 "Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance; for ye serve the Lord Christ.

25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.

He exhorteth them to be fervent in prayer, to walk wisely, and sendeth divers salutations.

26 **MASTERS**, give unto your servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven.

27 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;

28 Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

29 That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

30 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.

31 Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

32 All my state shall Tychicus declare unto you, who is a beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellowservant in the Lord:

33 Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that he might know your estate, and comfort your hearts;

COLOSSIANS 4:2

- ^a Eph. 6. 5. 6.
- ^b Philem. 10.
- ^c Acts 19. 29.
- ^d Cp. ver. 10, 12, 14 with Philem. 23, 24.
- ^e Eph. 6. 7.
- ^f Acts 12. 12.
- ^g Cp. Acts 15. 37.
- ^h Eph. 6. 8.
- ⁱ Cp. a Tim. 4. 11.
- ^j Mat. 25. 34.
- ^k Eph. 5. 5, 6.
- ^l Cp. Acts 1. 23 & 18. 7.
- ^m Gal. 2. 12.
- ⁿ Eph. 6. 9.
- ^o ch. 1. 7.
- ^p Or, striving.
- ^q Eph. 6. 9.
- ^r Phil. 3. 15.
- ^s Or, filled.
- ^t Acts 2. 42.
- ^u Rom. 12. 12.
- ^v Luke 18. 1.
- ^w Cp. 7. 7.
- ^x ch. 2. 17.
- ^y 1 Thes. 5. 18.
- ^z Eph. 6. 19.
- ^{aa} 1 Thes. 5. 25.
- ^{ab} Acts 16. 10.
- ^{ac} a Tim. 4. 11.
- ^{ad} Philem. 24.
- ^{ae} z Tim. 4. 20.
- ^{af} Philem. 24.
- ^{ag} ch. 1. 26.
- ^{ah} z z.
- ^{ai} Mat. 13. 11.
- ^{aj} z Cor. 4. 2.
- ^{ak} Eph. 3. 4 & 6. 19.
- ^{al} Eph. 6. 20.
- ^{am} Rom. 16. 5.
- ^{an} Rom. 16. 22.
- ^{ao} z Cor. 5. 9.
- ^{ap} z Cor. 7. 8.
- ^{aq} z Thes. 5. 27.
- ^{ar} a Thes. 3. 14.
- ^{as} z Thes. 5. 27.
- ^{at} Mark 4. 22.
- ^{au} Eph. 5. 16.
- ^{av} ch. 3. 16.
- ^{aw} Eph. 4. 29.
- ^{ax} Mat. 5. 37.
- ^{ay} Mark 9. 50.
- ^{az} Philem. 2.
- ^{ba} To ver. 9.
- ^{bb} Eph. 6. 21, 22.
- ^{bc} ch. 1. 7.
- ^{bd} z Cor. 16. 21.
- ^{be} Heb. 13. 3.
- ^{bf} Phil. 1. 7.
- ^{bg} z Tim. 4. 22.
- ^{bh} Tit. 3. 15.
- ^{bi} Heb. 13. 25.
- ^{bj} ch. 2. 2.

III. Continuing with Christ in our talk. v. 6

1. Talk with grace - gracious words
2. Talk with flavor - "seasoned"
3. Talk with motive

9 With Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They shall make known unto you all things which are done here.

10 Aristarchus my fellow-prisoner saluteth you, and Marcus, sister's son to Barnabas, (touching whom ye received commandments: if he come unto you, receive him);

11 And Jesus, which is called Justus, who are of the circumcision. These only are my fellowworkers unto the kingdom of God, which have been a comfort unto me.

12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

13 For I bear him record, that he hath a great zeal for you, and them that are in Laodicea, and them in Hierapolis.

14 Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you.

15 Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.

16 And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.

17 And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.

18 The salutation by the hand of me Paul. Remember my bonds. Grace be with you. Amen.

Written from Rome to the Colossians by Tychicus and Onesimus.

3. Talk with motive

IV Continuing with Christ

with fellows

of faith -

v. 7-18

and with

faithful fellows

v. 7

I Continuing with Christ in worship v. 2

II. Continuing with Christ in daily walk. v. 18
1. walk with discretion v. 5
2. walk with a purpose v. 8