

## **Lesson One: Colossians 1:1-14**

1. What did Paul call himself? Who was with him? 1:1
2. To whom is Colossians addressed? What did Paul desire that they have? 1:2
3. What did Paul do in regard to them? To whom did he pray? 1:3
4. When did Paul begin to give thanks to God for them? 1:4
5. What was laid up for them? Where was it made known? 1:5
6. What did Paul say about the gospel? 1:6
7. Who had helped in teaching them? 1:7 What did he tell Paul? 1:8
8. What did Paul continue to do? 1:9
9. What else did Paul desire for them? 1:10,11
10. To whom was thanks to be given? What had God done? 1:12
11. What else had God done? What did they have in Christ? 1:13,14

### **12. Thought Questions**

- A. What is the relationship between grace and peace?
- B. How could Paul hear of their grace and love?
- C. What caused Paul to give thanks to God?
- D. Had the gospel been preached in the whole world?
- E. What did Paul mean by the gospel bringing forth fruit?
- F. List the things which Paul desired for them.
- G. How were the Colossians translated into the kingdom of God's son?
- H. List the things the Colossians were said to have in Christ.
- I. What other lesson(s) do you see in 1:1-14?

## Lesson Two: Colossians 1:15-29

1. List the two things Paul said about Christ in 1:15.
2. Who created all things? For whom were they created? 1:16
3. List the things said about Christ in 1:17,18
4. What two things pleased God the Father? 1:19,20
5. Whom did God reconcile? How? Why? 1:21,22
6. To be presented unblameable and unproveable, what must they do? 1:23
7. How did Paul react to his sufferings? For what did Paul suffer? 1:24
8. What was given to Paul? 1:25 What was made manifest? To whom? 1:26
9. What did God want to make known? Who was their hope? 1:27
10. Whom did Paul preach? What did he do? Why? 1:28
11. Unto what did Paul labor? What worked in Paul? 1:29

### 12. Thought Questions

- A. List the things Paul said about Christ in 1:15-29
- B. What "fullness" dwelt in Christ?
- C. Was Christ the "image" of God during his incarnation? (cf. Heb 1:1-4)
- D. How is Christ the "firstborn" of every creature and of the dead?
- E. From 1:15-29, list the things the Father did through Christ.
- F. How were they reconciled to God? Where is reconciliation?
- G. To be unblameable and unproveable, must they break bread weekly?
- H. What is the body of Christ? How many bodies does Christ have?
- I. How did Paul treat his responsibility as an apostle and preacher?

### **Lesson Three: Colossians 2:1-7**

1. What did Paul want the Colossians to know? 2:1
2. Why did Paul want the Colossians to know that? 2:2
3. What is hid in Christ? 2:3
4. Why did Paul say those things? 2:4
5. Though absent, what was Paul seeing in them? 2:5
6. How did Paul react to their order and steadfastness of faith in Christ? 2:5
7. How were they to walk in Christ? 2:6
8. List the three things which resulted from being properly taught. 2:7
9. With what were they to abound? 2:7

#### **10. Thought Questions**

- A. Why should Paul be concerned about the churches?
- B. Were there false teachers among the churches?
- C. What was hidden in Christ?
- D. Did Jesus have all wisdom and knowledge during his incarnation?
- E. Why did Paul want them to know Jesus had all wisdom and knowledge?
- F. How were they to decide how to conduct their lives?
- G. How would they benefit from being rooted and built up in Christ and established in the faith?
- H. From 2:1-7, list all the things Paul wanted them to "be."
- I. From 2:1-7, list all the things Paul wanted them to "do."
- J. What should we learn from 2:1-7?

## **Lesson Four: Colossians 2:8-15**

1. Of what were they to beware? 2:8
2. What dwells in Christ? 2:9
3. In whom were they complete? Of what was He the head? 2:10
4. In whom were they circumcised with the circumcision made without hands? 2:11
5. What was put off? 2:11
6. List the things which took place when they were baptized? 2:12
7. Who was raised from the dead? Who raised him from the dead? 2:12
8. What two things describe their prior condition? 2:13
9. What two things had been done for them? 2:13
10. What was blotted out? How? Why? 2:14
11. Over what did he triumph? 2:15

### **12. Thought Questions**

- A. Note: Study thoughtfully the warning in 2:8. It concerns Gnostic influences which were disturbing the church in Colosse.
- B. See what you can find out about Gnosticism.
- C. What is meant by the "fullness of the Godhead bodily" dwelling in Jesus?
- D. Where were the Colossians spiritually and morally complete?
- E. Define: circumcise. What kind of circumcision is under consideration?
- F. When did this circumcision take place?
- G. Are sprinkling, pouring, and immersion scriptural forms of baptism?
- H. "Handwriting of ordinances" refers to what? How were they taken away?
- I. How and when did Jesus spoil principalities and powers?

## Lesson Five: Colossians 2:16-23

1. What were they not to do? 2:16
2. What were those things? 2:17
3. The body is of whom? 2:17
4. What were not to do? 2:18
5. List the four things said about those who might beguile them. 2:18
6. What were these people not doing? 2:19
7. What do the members receive from the head? 2:19
8. Why were they not be subject to the ordinances of men? 2:20,23
9. Concerning the ordinances of men, what were they not to do? 2:21
10. Why were they not to do those three things? 2:22
11. What did those things have? 2:23
12. **Thought Questions**
  - A. Why could no man judge them in meat, drink, Holy Day, or Sabbath?
  - B. Is that important to us today? Why?
  - C. List things of the Law of Moses which pointed to Christ and the gospel.
  - D. What is the problem presented to the Colossians in 2:18?
  - E. How might the puffed up knowledge of the Gnostic manifest itself?
  - F. Could we have this same problem in the church today? Explain.
  - G. What is meant by "not holding the head?" 2:19
  - H. List ways "not holding the head" manifests itself in the local church.
  - I. What is a "voluntary humility"? What is "will worship"?

## Lesson Six: Colossians 3:1-8

1. If they had been raised with Christ, what were they to do? 3:1
2. On what were they to set their affection? 3:2
3. Why were they to set their affection on things above? 3:3
4. Who was their life? What will happen when Christ appears? 3:4
5. What were they to mortify? 3:5
6. List the things they were to put to death. 3:5
7. Why should they put those things to death? 3:6
8. What had the Colossians done in time past? 3:7
9. List the things they were to put off. 3:8

### 10. Thought Questions

- A. Note: For "if" (3:1) read "since." Since ye are risen with Christ, seek those things which are above.
- B. When was Christ seated at the right hand of God?
- C. When were the Colossians raised with Christ?
- D. How would setting their affection on things above affect their life?
- E. In what sense were they dead? When did they die?
- F. How was Christ their life?
- G. "When Christ ... shall appear" refers to what?
- H. Who were the children of disobedience?
- I. Define: mortify.

## **Lesson Seven: Colossians 3:9-17**

1. What were they not to do to one another? Why? 3:9,10
2. The new man is renewed in what? After whose image? 3:10
3. What is not in Christ? What is Christ? 3:11
4. What three things describe the Colossians? What were they to put on? 3:12
5. List two obligations they had to one another? Who was their example? 3:13
6. What was most important? What is the bond of perfectness? 3:14
7. What was to rule in their hearts? To what were they called? Where? 3:15
8. What were they to be? 3:15 What was to dwell in them richly? In what? 3:16
9. List two things they were to do to one another? In what? How? 3:16
10. What was to be done in the name of Jesus? What else were they to do? 3:17

### **11. Thought Questions**

- A. Define: lie (3:9). Find a bible example of a lie.
- B. List the things that characterize the old man. (3:5-9)
- C. List the things that characterize the new man. (3:10-17)
- D. The one in Christ is a new what? (II Cor. 5:17)
- E. Note: One may be a "new man" by reason of being recently born into God's family (I Pet. 2:1,2), but he is to be perpetually "new" in quality.
- F. What is meant by the "bond of perfectness"?
- G. Can we know that mechanical instruments in spiritual worship are not pleasing to God? How?
- H. What is meant by doing a thing in the "name of the Lord Jesus"?
- I. List the four ways by which one can know an act is in the name of Jesus.

## **Lesson Eight: Colossians 3:18-4:1**

1. Who is addressed by Paul? What were they to do? How? 3:18
2. Who is addressed next? What were they to do? What were they not to do? 3:19
3. Who is addressed next? What were they to do? Why? 3:20
4. Who is addressed next? What were they not to do? Why? 3:21
5. Who is address next? What were they to do? Not with what? But what? 3:22
6. How were they to do what they did? 3:23
7. Why were they to do their service heartily as to the Lord? 3:24
8. If a servant did wrong, then what? There is no respect of what? 3:25
9. Who is addressed next? What were they to do? Why? 4:1

### **10. Thought Questions**

- A. What is meant by a wife submitting to her husband as is fit in the Lord?
- B. What might bitterness cause a husband to do to his wife?
- C. What should love cause a husband to do for his wife?
- D. How do children benefit from obeying their parents?
- E. How can a father provoke his children to anger?
- F. If a child sins, can he blame his parents for his sinful ways?
- G. How were servants and masters benefited by treating each other properly?
- H. In all these relationships, what is the basis upon which each person is to treat the other properly?

## Lesson Nine: Colossians 4:2-9

1. What did Paul command the Colossians to do? 4:2
2. For whom were they to pray? 4:3
3. For what were they to pray? 4:3,4
4. What were they to do toward those who are without? 4:5
5. What was to characterize their speech? Why? 4:6
6. What would Tychicus do? 4:7
7. How did Paul describe Tychicus? 4:7
8. Why had Paul sent Tychicus to them? 4:8
9. Who was sent also? 4:9
10. How did Paul describe Onesimus? 4:9
11. What would Onesimus and Tychicus make known to them? 4:9
12. **Thought Questions**
  - A. List the requirements for a scriptural prayer.
  - B. What did Paul want when he described a "door of utterance"?
  - C. Who are those "without"?
  - D. Find another passage which teaches us about our influence on the world.
  - E. What does it mean to "redeem the time"?
  - F. Who are wise in God's sight? Who are foolish in God's sight?
  - G. What is meant by speech with grace seasoned with salt?
  - H. Would speech with Grace seasoned with salt help bridle the tongue? How?
  - I. See what you can find out about Onesimus and Tychicus.

## Lesson Ten: Colossians 4:10-18

1. List three people who saluted them. Whom were they to receive? 4:10,11
2. The three who saluted them were of what? What had they been to Paul? 4:11
3. What was said about Epaphras? 4:12
4. For whom did Epaphras have a great zeal? 4:13
5. Name two others who saluted them. What did Paul call Luke? 4:14
6. Whom were the Colossians to salute? 4:15
7. Who else was to read the epistle to the Colossians? 4:16
8. What other epistle were the Colossians to read? 4:16
9. What were they to say to Archippus? 4:17
10. Who saluted them? What were they to do? What was to be with them? 4:18

### 11. Thought Questions

- A. How had the relationship between Paul, Marcus, and Barnabas changed?
- B. What might have kept Epaphras' prayer from being answered?
- C. What did James say about the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man?
- D. Who was Luke? What was his relationship to Paul?
- E. What is meant by the expression "...the church which is in his house"?
- F. What is "zeal"? What does it need to go with it? Why?
- G. What does the bible tell us about the church in Laodicea?
- H. If Archippus were a preacher, what were his duties as a preacher?
- I. What duties did Archippus have in common with other Christians?
- J. Why would Paul need the comfort of his fellow workers?

## COLOSSIANS

AUTHOR: Paul

DATE: 61 or 63 A.D. (During Roman imprisonment)

PLACE: Rome

PURPOSE: To meet the threat of Gnosticism.

I. Introduction. 1:1-14

II. The doctrine of the epistle, concerning the redeeming Son and His kingdom.  
1:15-23

III. Personal explanations. 1:24-2:7

a. Respecting the apostle and his mission. 1:24-29

b. Respecting his concern for the Colossians and their neighbors. 2:1-7

IV. Against the false teaching of Colossae 2:8-23

a. Its general principles limit the sufficiency of Christ and the Christian's completeness in Him 2:8-15

b. Repudiation of the false teacher and the Jewish observances, the angel-worship, and the ascetic rules he inculcated. 2:16-23

V. The true life of the Christian contrasted with that of false asceticism and visionary illusions of theosophy. 3:1-17

VI. The obligations of special relationships. 3:18-4:1

a. Wife. 18

b. Husband. 19

c. Children. 20

d. Fathers. 21

e. Servants. 22-25

f. Masters. 4:1

VII. Exhortations concerning prayer and social concourse. 4:2-6

VIII. Conclusion. 4:7-18

Outline source: Pulpit Commentary.

## **Summary of Colossians Chapters One through Four**

Chapter One. In 1:1-14 Paul wrote concerning his prayers (Thanksgiving) concerning their faith and love in Christ. Then, expressed his desire for their growth in and appreciation of the full knowledge of Jesus Christ. In 1:15-29 Paul showed that Christ was to be all in all because he was the one who created all things and for whom all things were created. And that it was in him and his gospel that they had hope.

Chapter Two. In 2:1-7 Paul expressed his concern for them and for the brethren in Laodicea. He desired their full assurance concerning the knowledge of the mystery of God. Then he reminds them that all the treasures of knowledge and wisdom are in Christ Jesus. Further he expressed his concern for their orderly lives. In 2:8-15 Paul warned them of concerning those who through vain philosophy would deceive them. Then he reminded them that in Christ they were complete. Thus, they did not need the foolishness of those who would lead them astray. In 2:16-23 Paul further warns them concerning the false teachers.

Chapter Three, in 3:1-8 Paul told them to set their affections on things above and put to death the flesh. In 3:9-17 Paul teaches them how to put off the old man and put on the new man and that they must do all things in the name of Jesus Christ. In 3:18 - 4:1 Paul instructed them concerning personal relationships.

Chapter Four. 4:2-9 Paul exhorted with general instructions concerning their life as a Christian. Then mentioned some of his fellow workers. In 4:10-18 Paul sent greetings from a number of people. Then exhorted them to exchange letters with the church in Laodicea and encourage Archippus in the fulfillment of his ministry.