

# THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS

## Salutation and thanksgiving

1 Paul, <sup>a</sup>an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus *our* brother,  
2 To the saints <sup>a</sup>and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse: <sup>b</sup>Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 ¶ <sup>a</sup>We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

4 <sup>a</sup>Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of <sup>b</sup>the love which *ye have* to all the saints,

5 For the hope <sup>a</sup>which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof *ye heard* before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

6 Which is come unto you, <sup>a</sup>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 <sup>b</sup>the grace of God in truth:

7 As *ye also learned of* <sup>a</sup>Epaphras our dear fellow-servant, who is for you <sup>b</sup>a faithful minister of Christ;

8 Who also declared unto us your <sup>a</sup>love in the Spirit.

## Paul's prayer for the Colossians

9 ¶ <sup>a</sup>For this cause we also, since the day we heard *it*, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire <sup>b</sup>that *ye might be filled with* <sup>c</sup>the knowledge of his will <sup>d</sup>in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

10 <sup>a</sup>That *ye might walk* worthy of the Lord <sup>b</sup>unto all pleasing, <sup>c</sup>being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

11 <sup>a</sup>Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, <sup>b</sup>unto all patience and longsuffering <sup>c</sup>with joyfulness;

12 <sup>a</sup>Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of <sup>b</sup>the inheritance of the saints in light:

13 Who hath delivered us from <sup>a</sup>the power of darkness, <sup>b</sup>and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of <sup>1</sup>his dear Son:

14 <sup>a</sup>In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

## Christ's preeminence

15 Who is <sup>a</sup>the image of the invisible God, <sup>b</sup>the firstborn of every creature:

16 For <sup>a</sup>by him were all *things* created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or <sup>b</sup>dominions, or principalities, or powers: all *things* were created <sup>c</sup>by him, and for him:

17 <sup>a</sup>And he is before all *things*, and by him all *things* consist.

1:1 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:1  
1:2 <sup>a1</sup> Cor. 4:17  
<sup>a</sup>Gal. 1:3  
1:3 <sup>a1</sup> Cor. 1:4  
Eph. 1:16 Phil. 1:3

1:4 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:15  
<sup>a</sup>Heb. 6:10

1:5 <sup>a1</sup> Pet. 1:4

1:6 <sup>a</sup>Mat. 24:14

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 3:2 Tit. 2:11

1:7 <sup>a</sup>Phil. 2:3

<sup>a2</sup> Cor. 11:23

1 Tim. 4:6

1:8 <sup>a</sup>Rom. 15:30

1:9 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:15

<sup>a1</sup> Cor. 1:5

<sup>a</sup>Rom. 12:2

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:8

1:10 <sup>a</sup>Phil. 1:27

<sup>a1</sup> Thes. 4:1

<sup>a</sup>Heb. 13:21

1:11 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 3:16

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 4:2 <sup>a</sup>Acts 5:41

1:12 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 5:20

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:11

1:13 <sup>a</sup>Gr. the Son of his love

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 6:12

<sup>a2</sup> Pet. 1:11

1:14 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:7

1:15 <sup>a2</sup> Cor. 4:4

<sup>a</sup>Rev. 3:14

1:16 <sup>a</sup>Heb. 1:2

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:21 <sup>a</sup>Heb. 2:10

1:17 <sup>a</sup>John 17:5

1:18 <sup>a</sup>Or among all <sup>a1</sup> Cor. 11:3

<sup>a</sup>Rev. 1:5

1:19 <sup>a</sup>John 1:16

1:20 <sup>a</sup>Or, making peace

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 2:14

<sup>a2</sup> Cor. 5:18

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:10

1:21 <sup>a</sup>Or, by your mind in wicked works <sup>a</sup>Eph. 2:1

<sup>a</sup>Tit. 1:15

1:22 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 2:15

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 5:27

1:23 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 3:17

<sup>a</sup>John 15:6

<sup>a</sup>Rom. 10:18

<sup>a</sup>Acts 1:17

1:24 <sup>a2</sup> Cor. 7:4

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 3:1, 13

<sup>a2</sup> Cor. 1:5

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:23

1:25 <sup>a</sup>Or, fully to preach the word of God <sup>a</sup>Gal. 2:7

1:26 <sup>a1</sup> Cor. 2:7

<sup>a2</sup> Tim. 1:10

1:27 <sup>a</sup>Or, amongst you

<sup>a2</sup> Cor. 2:14

<sup>a</sup>Rom. 9:23

<sup>a1</sup> Tim. 1:1

1:28 <sup>a</sup>Acts 20:20 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 5:27

1:29 <sup>a1</sup> Cor. 15:10 <sup>a</sup>ch. 2:1

<sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:19

2:1 <sup>a</sup>Or, fear, or care <sup>a</sup>Phil. 1:30

2:2 <sup>a2</sup> Cor. 1:6

<sup>a</sup>ch. 3:14 <sup>a</sup>Phil. 3:8

2:3 <sup>a</sup>Or, Wherein <sup>a1</sup> Cor. 1:24

2:4 <sup>a</sup>Rom. 16:18

18 And <sup>a</sup>he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, <sup>b</sup>the firstborn from the dead; that <sup>1</sup>in all *things* he might have the preeminence.

19 For it pleased *the Father* that <sup>a</sup>in him should all fulness dwell;

20 And, <sup>a1</sup>having made peace through the blood of his cross, <sup>b</sup>by him to reconcile <sup>c</sup>all *things* unto himself; by him, *I say*, whether *they be things* in earth, or *things* in heaven.

## The ministry of Paul

21 ¶ And you, <sup>a</sup>that were sometimes alienated and enemies <sup>1</sup>in *your* mind <sup>b</sup>by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

22 <sup>a</sup>In the body of his flesh through death, <sup>b</sup>to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:

23 If *ye continue* in the faith <sup>a</sup>grounded and settled, and *be* <sup>b</sup>not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which *ye have heard*, <sup>c</sup>and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; <sup>d</sup>whereof I Paul am made a minister;

24 <sup>a</sup>Who now rejoice in my sufferings <sup>b</sup>for you, and fill up <sup>c</sup>that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for <sup>d</sup>his body's sake, which is the church:

25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to <sup>a</sup>the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, <sup>1</sup>to fulfil the word of God;

26 *Even* <sup>a</sup>the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, <sup>b</sup>but now is made manifest to his saints:

27 <sup>a</sup>To whom God would make known what is <sup>b</sup>the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ <sup>1</sup>in you, <sup>c</sup>the hope of glory:

28 Whom we preach, <sup>a</sup>warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; <sup>b</sup>that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

29 <sup>a</sup>Whereunto I also labour, <sup>b</sup>striving <sup>c</sup>according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

2 For I would that *ye knew* what great <sup>a1</sup>conflict I have for you, and *for* them at Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;

2 <sup>a</sup>That their hearts might be comforted, <sup>b</sup>being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, <sup>c</sup>to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God and of the Father, and of Christ;

3 <sup>a1</sup>In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

4 And this I say, <sup>a</sup>lest any *man* should be guile you with enticing words.

5 For <sup>a</sup>though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding <sup>b</sup>your order, and the <sup>c</sup>steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

6 <sup>a</sup>As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, *so* walk ye in him:

7 <sup>a</sup>Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

#### The sufficiency of Christ

8 ¶ Beware lest any *man* spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after <sup>a</sup>the tradition of men, after the <sup>b</sup>rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

9 For <sup>a</sup>in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

10 And ye are complete in him, <sup>a</sup>which is the head of all <sup>b</sup>principality and power:

11 In whom also ye are <sup>a</sup>circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in <sup>b</sup>putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ:

12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also you are risen with *him* through <sup>a</sup>the faith of the operation of God, <sup>b</sup>who hath raised him from the dead.

13 And you, being dead in *your* sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

14 <sup>a</sup>Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to *his* cross;

15 *And* <sup>a</sup>having spoiled <sup>b</sup>principalities and powers, he made a shew of *them* openly, triumphing over them <sup>1</sup>in it.

16 ¶ Let no *man* therefore <sup>a</sup>judge you <sup>b</sup>in meat, or in drink, or <sup>2</sup>in respect <sup>c</sup>of a holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:

17 <sup>a</sup>Which are a shadow of *things* to come; but the body *is* of Christ.

18 Let no *man* <sup>1</sup>beguile you of your reward <sup>2</sup>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 <sup>a</sup>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 if ye be <sup>a</sup>dead with Christ from the <sup>1</sup>rudiments of the world, <sup>b</sup>why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,

21 (<sup>a</sup>Touch not; taste not; handle not;

22 Which all are to perish with the using;) <sup>a</sup>after the commandments and doctrines of men?

23 <sup>a</sup>Which *things* have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and <sup>1</sup>neglecting of the body, not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.

2:5 <sup>a</sup>1 Thes.  
2:17 <sup>a</sup>1 Cor.  
14:40 <sup>a</sup>1 Pet. 5:9  
2:6 <sup>a</sup>1 Thes. 4:1  
2:7 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 2:21  
2:8 <sup>1</sup>Or.  
elements <sup>a</sup>Gal.  
1:14 <sup>a</sup>Gal. 4:3,9  
2:9 <sup>a</sup>John 1:14  
2:10 <sup>a</sup>1 Pet.  
3:22 <sup>a</sup>ch. 1:16  
2:11 <sup>a</sup>Deut.  
10:16 <sup>a</sup>Rom. 6:6  
2:12 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:19  
<sup>2</sup>Acts 2:24  
2:14 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 2:15  
2:15 <sup>1</sup>Or. *in himself* <sup>a</sup>Is.  
53:12 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 6:12  
2:16 <sup>1</sup>Or. *for eating and drinking* <sup>a</sup>Or. *in part* <sup>a</sup>Rom. 14:3  
<sup>a</sup>Rom. 14:2  
<sup>a</sup>Rom. 14:5  
2:17 <sup>a</sup>Heb. 8:5  
2:18 <sup>1</sup>Or. *judge against you* <sup>a</sup>Gr. *being a voluntary in humility*  
2:19 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 4:15  
2:20 <sup>1</sup>Or.  
elements <sup>a</sup>Rom. 6:3,5 <sup>a</sup>Gal. 4:3,9  
2:21 <sup>a</sup>1 Tim. 4:3  
2:22 <sup>a</sup>Tit. 1:14  
2:23 <sup>1</sup>Or.  
*punishing, or, not sparing* <sup>a</sup>1 Tim. 4:8

3:1 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:20  
3:2 <sup>1</sup>Or. *mind*  
3:3 <sup>a</sup>Rom. 6:2  
<sup>2</sup>2 Cor. 5:7  
3:4 <sup>a</sup>1 John 3:2  
<sup>a</sup>John 14:6  
<sup>a</sup>1 Cor. 15:43  
3:5 <sup>a</sup>Rom. 8:13  
<sup>a</sup>Rom. 6:13  
<sup>a</sup>Eph. 5:3 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 5:5  
3:6 <sup>a</sup>Rev. 22:15  
<sup>a</sup>Eph. 2:2  
3:7 <sup>a</sup>1 Cor. 6:11  
3:8 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 4:22  
<sup>a</sup>Eph. 4:29  
3:9 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 4:25  
<sup>a</sup>Eph. 4:22  
3:10 <sup>a</sup>Rom. 12:2  
<sup>a</sup>Eph. 4:23 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 2:10  
3:11 <sup>a</sup>Gal. 3:28  
<sup>a</sup>Eph. 1:23  
3:12 <sup>a</sup>1 Pet. 1:2  
<sup>a</sup>Gal. 5:22  
3:13 <sup>1</sup>Or.  
*complaint* <sup>a</sup>Mark 11:25  
3:14 <sup>a</sup>1 Pet. 4:8  
<sup>a</sup>1 Cor. 13 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 4:3  
3:15 <sup>a</sup>Phil. 4:7  
<sup>a</sup>1 Cor. 7:15  
<sup>a</sup>Eph. 4:4  
3:16 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 5:19  
3:17 <sup>a</sup>1 Cor. 10:31  
3:18 <sup>a</sup>1 Pet. 3:1  
<sup>a</sup>Eph. 5:3  
3:19 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 5:25  
<sup>a</sup>Eph. 4:31  
3:20 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 6:1  
<sup>a</sup>Eph. 5:24  
3:21 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 6:4  
3:22 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 6:5  
<sup>1</sup>1 Tim. 6:1; Tit. 2:9  
<sup>1</sup>1 Pet. 2:18 <sup>a</sup>ver.  
20 <sup>a</sup>Philem. 16

#### The true center of Christian life

3 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek <sup>3</sup>those *things* which are above, where <sup>a</sup>Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your <sup>1</sup>affection on *things* above, not on *things* on the earth.

3 <sup>a</sup>For ye are dead, <sup>b</sup>and your life is hid with Christ in God.

4 <sup>a</sup>When Christ, *who is* <sup>b</sup>our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him <sup>c</sup>in glory.

5 ¶ <sup>a</sup>Mortify therefore <sup>b</sup>your members which are upon the earth; <sup>c</sup>fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, <sup>d</sup>which is idolatry:

6 <sup>a</sup>For which *things*' sake the wrath of God cometh on <sup>b</sup>the children of disobedience:

7 <sup>a</sup>In the which ye also walked sometime, when ye lived in them.

8 <sup>a</sup>But now you also put off all *these*; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, <sup>b</sup>filthy communication out of your mouth.

9 <sup>a</sup>Lie not one to another, <sup>b</sup>seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

10 And have put on the new *man*, which <sup>a</sup>is renewed in knowledge <sup>b</sup>after the image of him that <sup>c</sup>created him:

11 Where there is neither <sup>a</sup>Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: <sup>b</sup>but Christ *is* all, and in all.

12 Put on therefore, <sup>a</sup>as the elect of God, holy and beloved, <sup>b</sup>bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering;

13 <sup>a</sup>Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any *man* have a <sup>1</sup>quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do* ye.

14 <sup>a</sup>And above all these *things* <sup>b</sup>put on charity, which is the <sup>c</sup>bond of perfectness.

15 And let <sup>a</sup>the peace of God rule in your hearts, <sup>b</sup>to the which also ye are called <sup>c</sup>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 <sup>a</sup>in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

17 And <sup>a</sup>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.

#### The Christian family

18 ¶ <sup>a</sup>Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, <sup>b</sup>as it is fit in the Lord.

19 <sup>a</sup>Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not <sup>b</sup>bitter against them.

20 <sup>a</sup>Children, obey *your* parents <sup>b</sup>in all *things*: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

21 <sup>a</sup>Fathers, provoke not your children to *anger*, lest they be discouraged.

22 <sup>a</sup>Servants, obey <sup>b</sup>in all *things* *your* masters <sup>c</sup>according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

23 <sup>a</sup>And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

24 <sup>a</sup>Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: <sup>b</sup>for ye serve the Lord Christ.

25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive *for* the wrong which he hath done: and <sup>a</sup>there is no respect of persons.

**4** <sup>a</sup>Masters, give unto *your* servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven.

2 ¶ <sup>a</sup>Continue in prayer, and watch in the same <sup>b</sup>with thanksgiving;

3 <sup>a</sup>Withal praying also for us, that God would <sup>b</sup>open unto us a door of utterance, to speak <sup>c</sup>the mystery of Christ, <sup>d</sup>for which I am also in bonds:

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

5 <sup>a</sup>Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, <sup>b</sup>redeeming the time.

6 Let your speech *be* always <sup>a</sup>with grace, <sup>b</sup>seasoned with salt, <sup>c</sup>that *you* may know how ye ought to answer every man.

#### Tychicus and Onesimus

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

8 <sup>a</sup>Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that he might know your estate, and comfort your hearts;

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

3:23 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 6:6,7  
3:24 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 6:8  
¶ 1 Cor. 7:22  
3:25 <sup>a</sup>Rom. 2:11; Eph. 6:9; 1 Pet. 1:17; Deut. 10:17  
4:1 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 6:9  
4:2 <sup>a</sup>Luke 18:1; Rom. 12:12; ¶ ch. 2:7  
4:3 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 6:19  
¶ 1 Cor. 16:9;  
2 Cor. 2:12  
¶ Eph. 6:19; ¶ Eph. 6:20; Phil. 1:7  
4:5 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 5:15  
¶ Eph. 5:16  
4:6 <sup>a</sup>Ecc. 10:12  
¶ Mark 9:50  
¶ 1 Pet. 3:15  
4:8 <sup>a</sup>Eph. 6:22  
4:9 <sup>a</sup>Philem. 10  
4:10 <sup>a</sup>Acts 19:29; ¶ Acts 15:37; 2 Tim. 4:11  
4:12 <sup>1</sup>Or. *striving*; ¶ Or. *filled*; ¶ Philem. 23  
¶ Rom. 15:30  
¶ Mat. 5:48; 1 Cor. 2:6  
4:14 <sup>a</sup>2 Tim. 4:11; ¶ 2 Tim. 4:10  
4:15 <sup>a</sup>Rom. 16:5; 1 Cor. 16:19  
4:16 <sup>a</sup>1 Thes. 5:27  
4:17 <sup>a</sup>Philem. 2  
¶ 1 Tim. 4:6  
4:18 <sup>a</sup>1 Cor. 16:21; 2 Thes. 3:17; ¶ Heb. 13:3  
¶ Heb. 13:25

#### Greetings and final instructions

10 <sup>a</sup>Aristarchus my fellowprisoner saluteth you, and <sup>b</sup>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 <sup>a</sup>Epaphras, who is *one* of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always <sup>b</sup>labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand <sup>c</sup>perfect and <sup>2</sup>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 <sup>a</sup>Luke, the beloved physician, and <sup>b</sup>Demas, greet you.

15 Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and <sup>a</sup>the church which is in his house.

16 And when <sup>a</sup>this epistle is read amongst 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 <sup>a</sup>Archippus, Take heed to <sup>b</sup>the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.

18 <sup>a</sup>The salutation by the hand of me Paul. <sup>b</sup>Remember my bonds. <sup>c</sup>Grace *be* with you. Amen.

¶ Written from Rome to the Colossians by Tychicus and Onesimus.