

COLOSSIANS

Christ Is All, and in All

AUTHOR

Paul (1:1)

- To the church at Colosse (1:2)
- To be shared with church at Laodicea (4:16)
- Another of Paul's prison epistles

DATE About A.D. 61

Written in Rome

Delivered by Tychicus & Onesimus (4:7-9)

- Probably along with Ephesians and Philemon

THEME "COMPLETE IN CHRIST"

*There are two great truths in this book:

1. All the fullness of God is in Christ. (1:15-19; 2:9; 3:11b)
 - Nothing can be added to Him.
 - In all things He must have **PREMINENCE!**
2. All the fullness of Christ is for us.
 - 1:28 – "perfect in Christ Jesus"
 - 2:10 – "ye are complete in him."
 - 2:8 – Beware of any philosophy that is "not after Christ"
 - What can be added that the believer does not already have in Him?

OUTLINE

See Baxter's *Explore the Book* outline

KEY WORDS

- *All* – 16 times in Chapter One
- *Knowledge*
- *Wisdom*
- *Full/Fullness*
- *Perfect*

KEY VERSE

Colossians 2:8

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

SPECIAL FEATURES

*Paul preaches the Person of Christ in answer to false philosophy:

1. Jewish legalism (2:11; 3:11; 2:14, 16-17)
2. Asceticism (2:20-23)
3. Angel worship (2:18-19)
4. Glorification of human knowledge (2:3-4, 8, 18b)

*Paul presents the answer and solution (ch. 1) before discussing the problem.

CHRIST IN THE BOOK

1. The Hope of Glory (1:27)
2. The treasure of wisdom and knowledge (2:3)
3. The fullness of God (1:19-2:9)
4. Spoiler of principalities & powers (2:19)