



fairwaybaptistchurch

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Colossians 1:1-2

You can view this age we live in from almost any angle and find that Colossians has something to say: **Jesus Christ** is an ageless, eternal solution to the dilemma of every man.

Colossians 1:1-2

The Author

Paul (Acts 9)

“apostle” – Sent one

- Describes an authoritative messenger commissioned by the Lord **Jesus Christ** Himself
- **Ambassador** who speaks and acts with the authority of the One who sent him

The Audience

“holy” – The Greek word has no moral or ethical value. It simply means “**set apart**.”

“faithful brothers” – **Loyal**

Not all of those who have been set apart are staying set apart. So Paul addresses this as well to those who are faithful – to those who are **living** set apart.

“Colosse”

- 100 miles from **Ephesus**
- **Smallest** city to which Paul ever sent a letter
- **Epaphras** founded the church in Colosse

The Purpose

Colossians is a response to Epaphras’ report of a problem of **heresy** creeping into the church in Colosse.

The Heresy

Jewish Element – Included a strict **legalism** and rituals and observance of holy days

Pagan Philosophy Element – You have to have an elaborate mystical **knowledge** in combination with Jesus Christ to be saved

Mask of Christianity – It did not deny Christ, but it did **dethrone** him. It gave Christ a place, but not the supreme place.

The Relevance

How easy is it to give Jesus a place of importance in your life, but not **everything**?

How easy is it to confuse the stuff of our lives that is meant to be the **result** of salvation as the stuff we have to do have in addition to Jesus **for** salvation?

How easy is it to take **pride** in what we know or have experienced spiritually?

How easy is it for us to turn our faith into a set of do’s and don’ts to live by rather than living life **in Christ** one step at a time in relationship?

All of these things grow out of one problem – a failure to really recognized **Jesus** for Who He is.

That’s the heart of Colossians.

Make this your prayer:

Jesus, show me Your **glory** and help it **change** my life today.