

Paul's Epistle to the Colossians

The Apostle Paul sends a letter of doctrinal correction to Colosse.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy *our* brother,

Apostle Paul



Timothy



Colossians 1

¶ Colossians 1:2 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.

1. Q: what “saints” does Paul address?

- Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Note: Paul wrote to the “called saints” which were Hebrews and uncircumcised. They were those that had become “strangers” and had lapsed in keeping “my covenant”.

Note: Paul tells these saints (Col 3:15) to “be ye thankful”!

Colossians 1

¶ Colossians 1:2 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.

1. Q: what was “my covenant” that they failed to keep?
 - Genesis 17:10 This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.
 - Ezekiel 44:7 In that ye have brought *into my sanctuary* strangers, uncircumcised in heart, and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in my sanctuary, to pollute it, *even* my house, when ye offer my bread, the fat and the blood, and they have broken my covenant because of all your abominations.

Colossians 1

Q: what is it to be “uncircumcised in heart”?

R: Stephen answers the question by the Holy Ghost:

Acts 7:51 Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers *did, so do ye*.

Q: Is it possible to be circumcised in flesh while yet uncircumcised in heart?

R: Paul writes:

Galatians 6:12a As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised

Note: for Israel the covenant was/is not in a “fair shew in the flesh”, but in the “keeping” of it by faith: that they believed God.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:2 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.

1. Q: what was the status of the uncircumcised Hebrew?

- Ephesians 2:11-13 Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

Colossians 1

¶ Colossians 1:2 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.

1. Q: why did Paul tells these saints to “be ye thankful” in Colossians 3:15?
 - Ephesians 2:12-13 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

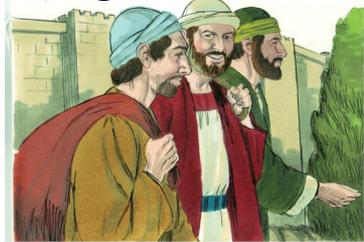
Colossians 1

¶ Colossians 1:2 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.

1. Q: how do the saints addressed in Colossians 1:2 compare to the Kingdom saints? And, does it relate to “theirs and ours” of 1Corinthians 1:2?
 - 1 Corinthians 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours

Rom 16:7 Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.

“theirs”
Kingdom saints



Little Flock

Eph 1:12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

Eph3:8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints...

1Co 15:8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

Apostle Paul



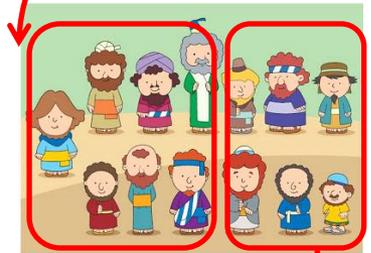
“last of all”
and
“in me first”

1Ti 1:16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting

Timothy



“ours”
called saints...



...and faithful
brethren in Christ

Eph 1:13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation...

1Corinthians 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours

Colossians 1

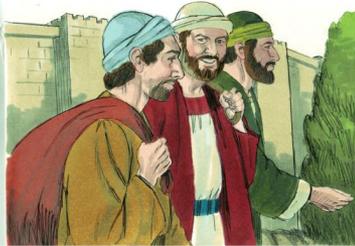
¶Colossians 1:3-8 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints, For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel; 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 the grace of God in truth: As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

Colossians 1

Colossians 1:4b ...and of the love which ye have to all the saints...

Note: the above statement points to both the Kingdom saints (“theirs”), and other of the called saints (“ours”).

“theirs”
Kingdom saints

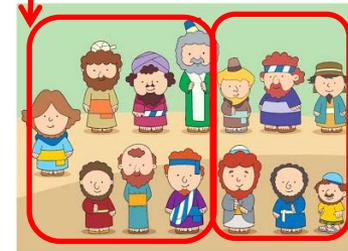


Apostle Paul



“last of all”
and
“in me first”

“ours”
called saints...



Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:3-8 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love *which ye have* to all the saints, For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel; 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 the grace of God in truth: As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

Colossians 1

Colossians 1:5a ...For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven...

Note: In Colossians 3 Paul writes:

Colossians 3:1-3 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Note: Hebrews desire the land on earth God had given to Abraham and his seed after him –

Jeremiah 22:27 But to the land whereunto they desire to return, thither shall they not return.

The Exodus Song –

(Original score: Ernest Gold, circa 1960)

This land is mine, God gave this land to me

This brave and ancient land to me

(under a condition...Leviticus 20:22-23)

And when the morning sun reveals her hills and plain

Then I see a land where children can run free.

So take my hand and walk this land with me

And walk this lovely land with me

Though I am just a man, when you are by my side

With the help of God, I know I can be strong.

Though I am just a man, when you are by my side

With the help of God, I know I can be strong

To make this land our home (???)

If I must fight, I'll fight to make this land our own

Until I die, this land is mine.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:3-8 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love *which ye have* to all the saints, For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel; 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 the grace of God in truth: As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

Colossians 1

Colossians 1:6b-7 ...since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth: As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

Note: it appears that Epaphras brought the gospel of grace to those in Colosse – which they heard, and believed:

“...and knew the grace of God in truth...”.

Epaphras continued to minister to those in Colosse and report progress to Paul:

- Colossians 1:4a Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus
- Colossians 1:9a For this cause we also, since the day we heard *it*, do not cease to pray for you

The Body over which Christ is head: called saints, and faithful brethren in Christ – heard, believed, saved, sealed!

Ye...you every creature

called saints...

...ye are called
...walk worthy
...the vocation
...gifts
...members in particular

...and faithful brethren in Christ

beloved...partakers of the benefit

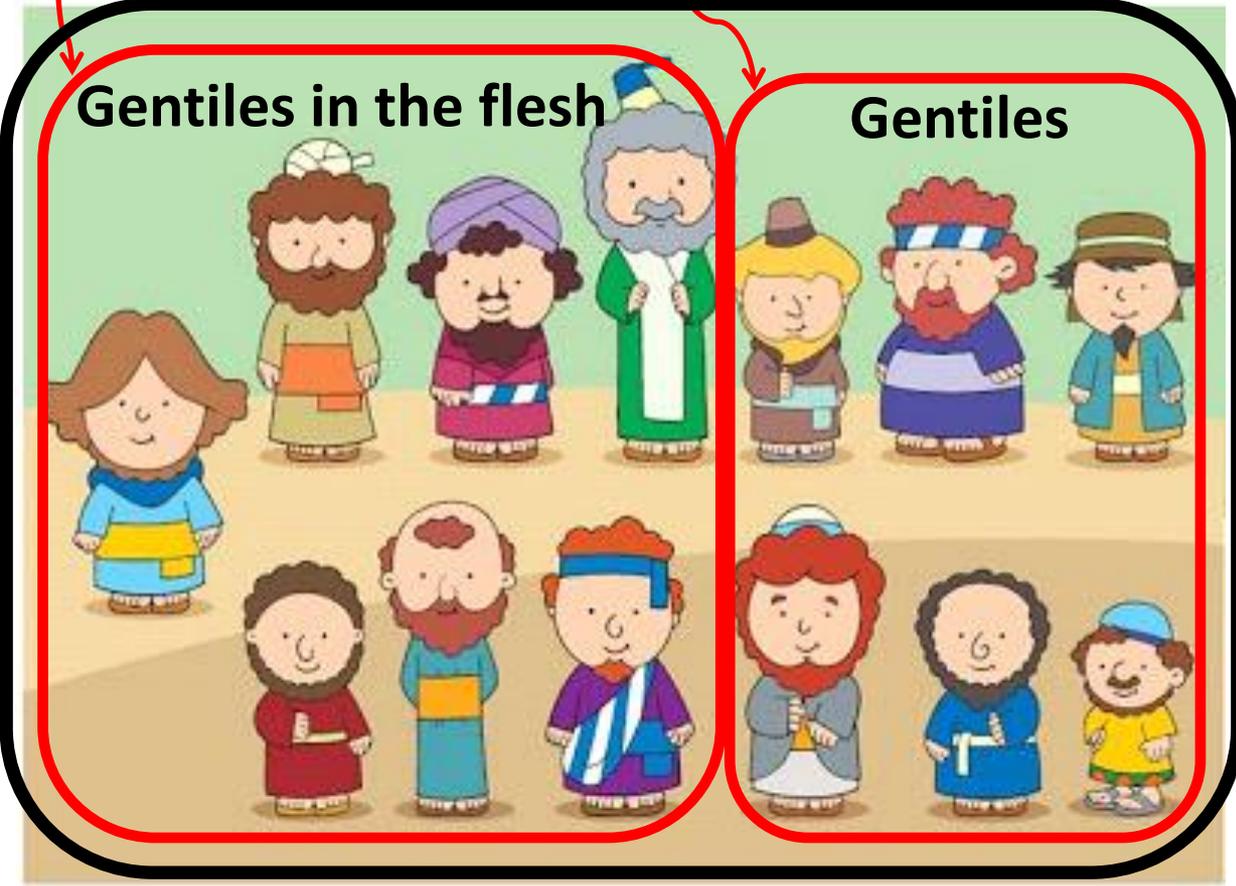
We...us



Apostle Paul



Timothy



Colossians 1

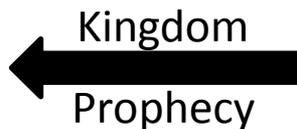
Salvation: truth common to Mystery and Prophecy

**Jesus is the
Christ!**



Law

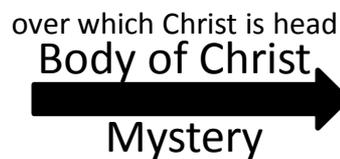
And Simon Peter
answered and said, Thou
art the Christ, the Son of
the living God.
Matt 16:16



Christ
died,
was buried,
and rose again!
1Cor 15:3-4



Apostle Paul
"last of all"
and
"in me first"



Jesus Saves!



Grace

Moreover, brethren, I
declare unto the gospel
which I preached unto
you, which also ye have
received, and wherein ye
stand; By which also ye
are saved
1Cor 15:1-2a

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:9-14 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 all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

Colossians 1

Colossians 1:9b ...and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding...

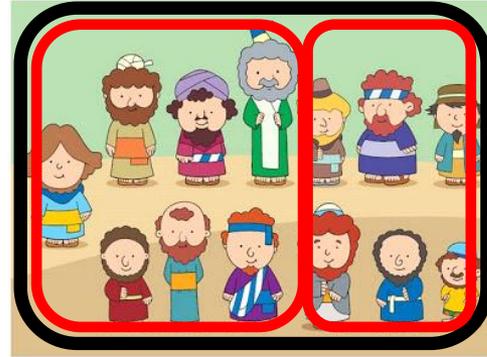
Note: it can be observed that much written by Paul is of these three categories:

1. Knowledge – statements of information
2. Wisdom – statements instructing benefit of knowledge and understanding
3. Understanding – statements that explain/elaborate.

Next, an example passage that is very familiar to us to help illustrate: knowledge, wisdom and understanding of the writings of Paul:

1Thessalonians 4:13-18

The catching away of the Body over which Christ is head –



Verses 13-14 – knowledge

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

Note: the above two verses provide information (i.e.: knowledge) without which the brethren would be “ignorant”.

1Thessalonians 4:13-18

Verses 15-17 – understanding

For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Note: the above three verses provide an explanation, and an elaboration (i.e.: understanding) as to how the event in verses 13 and 14 will happen.

1Thessalonians 4:13-18

Verse 18 – wisdom

Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Note: the above verse provides instruction as to the benefit (i.e.: wisdom) of the preceding verses of knowledge and understanding.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:9-14 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 all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

The Body over which Christ is head: called saints and faithful brethren in Christ

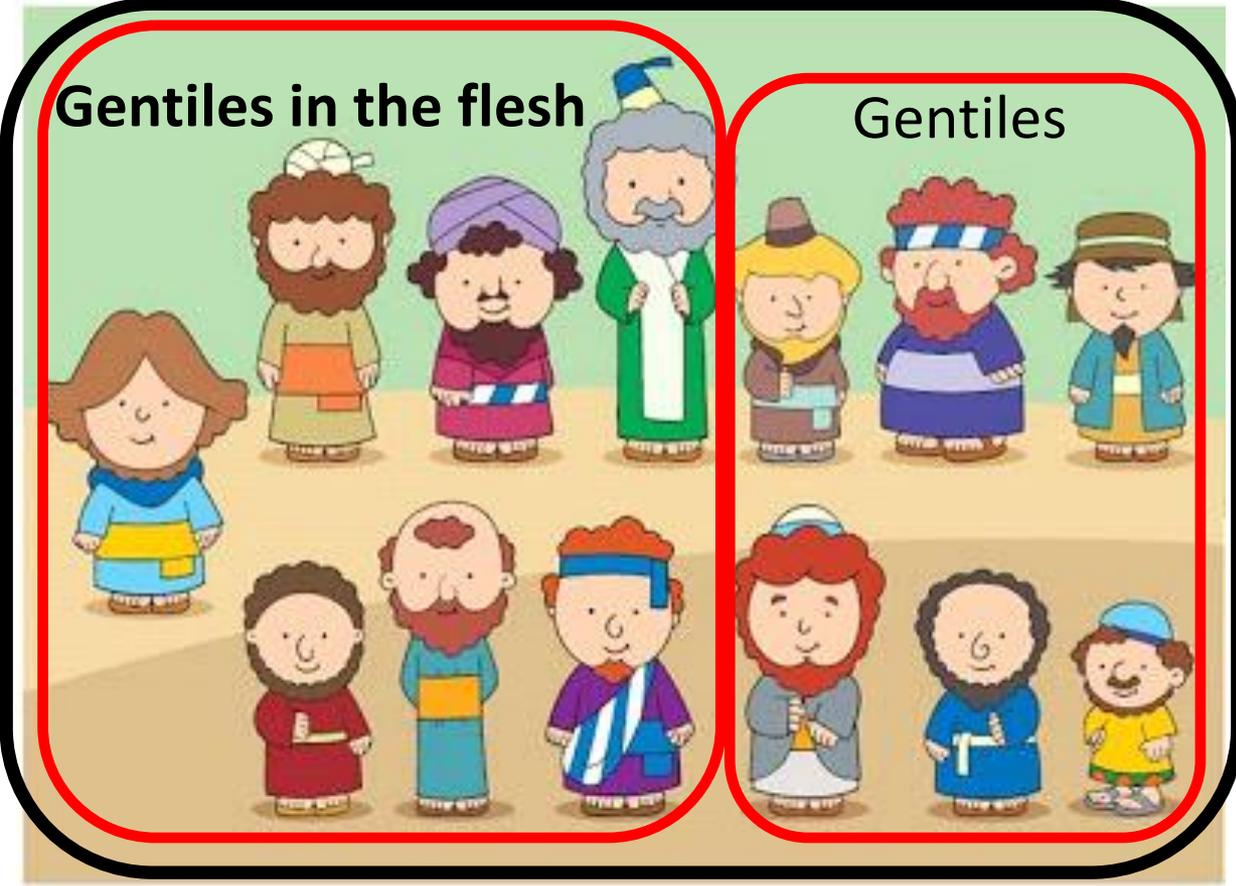
called saints...
...walk worthy



Apostle Paul



Timothy



Colossians 1

Colossians 1:10 ...That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God...

Note: the “walk” of the saints was commanded by Paul.

Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called

Philippians 2:12a Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence

Colossians 1

Colossians 1:10 ...That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God...

Note: the “walk” of the saints was commanded by Paul (continued):

Philippians 3:16 Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

Colossians 2:6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him

Colossians 1

Colossians 1:10 ...That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God...

Note: the “walk” of the saints was commanded by Paul (continued):

Colossians 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.

1Thessalonians 2:12 That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.

Colossians 1

Colossians 1:12 ...Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light...

We know of “partakers of the benefit” ...

The Body over which Christ is head: called saints and faithful brethren in Christ

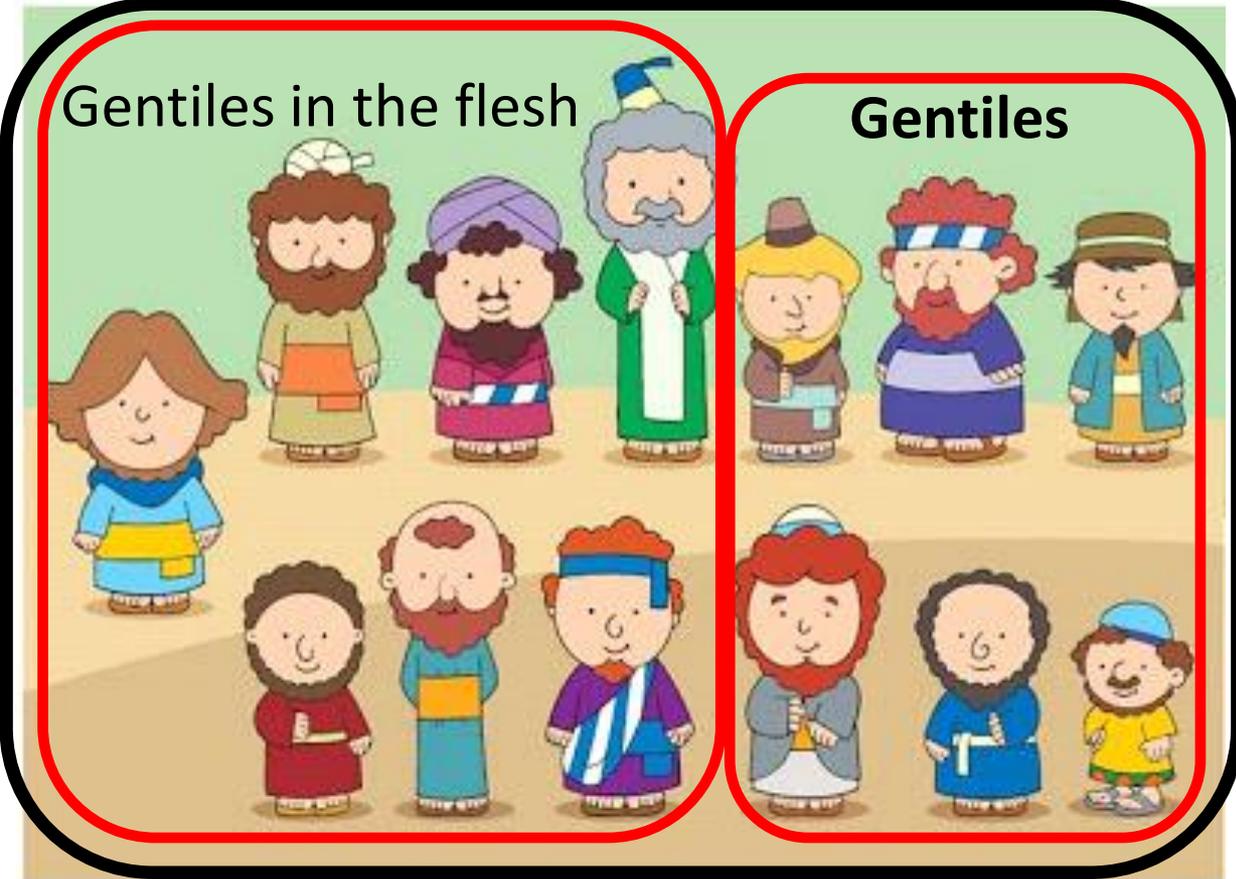
...and faithful brethren in Christ
...beloved...partakers of the benefit
called saints...



Apostle Paul



Timothy



Gentiles in the flesh

Gentiles

Colossians 1

Colossians 1:12 ...Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light...

We know of “partakers of the benefit”...

Q: What are “partakers of the inheritance”?

While the called saints would have known exactly of what Paul was referring, we need to go back and examine what God had promised.

Genesis 15:2-8 And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house *is* this Eliezer of Damascus? And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir. And, behold, the word of the LORD *came* unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir. And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness. And he said unto him, I *am* the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it. And he said, Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?

Galatians 3:14, 16, 18 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. ... Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. ... For if the inheritance *be* of the law, *it is* no more of promise: but God gave *it* to Abraham by promise.

Note: The “called saints” here recognized themselves as to how the promise made to Abraham would be extended to them: through faith.

Note: Thus, the “called saints” had been made “meet” to be “partakers of the inheritance” of Abraham through faith.

Note: “partakers of the benefit”, by extension, are “partakers of the inheritance” **along with** the “called saints”.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:9-14 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 all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

Colossians 1

Colossians 1:14 ...Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins...

Note: The called saints have been “delivered”, and “translated” into the vast kingdom of Christ “through his blood”.

Ephesians 2:6 And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus

Note: We “partakers of the benefit” also, following the “called saints” have been delivered and translated through his blood.

Romans 3:30 Seeing *it is* one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:15-17 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Hebrews 1:3a Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power

Genesis 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness

Note: two aspects: resemblance, and manner.

Note: “firstborn” = preeminence; ~~1~~ first-to-be-born.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:18 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all *things* he might have the preeminence.

Hebrews 1:3a Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power

Colossians 1

¶ Colossians 1:18 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. (continued)

Hebrews 1:10 And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands

Colossians 1

¶ Colossians 1:18 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. (continued)

Hebrews 11:3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Hebrews 2:10 For it became him, for whom *are* all things, and by whom *are* all things

Colossians 1

¶ Colossians 1:18 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. (continued)

Romans 1:20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse

Colossians 1

Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all *things* he might have the preeminence.

Ephesians 1:22-23 And hath put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Note: “firstborn” = preeminence; ~~≠~~ first-to-be-born.

Colossians 1

Salvation: truth common to Mystery and Prophecy

**Jesus is the
Christ!**

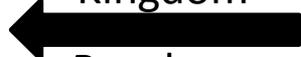


Law

And Simon Peter
answered and said, Thou
art the Christ, the Son of
the living God.

Matt 16:16

Kingdom
Prophecy



Christ
died,
was buried,
and rose again!
1Cor 15:3-4

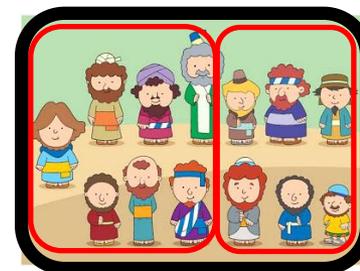


Apostle Paul
"last of all"
and
"in me first"

over which Christ is head
Body of Christ
Mystery



Jesus Saves!



Grace

Moreover, brethren, I
declare unto the gospel
which I preached unto
you, which also ye have
received, and wherein ye
stand; By which also ye
are saved

1Cor 15:1-2a

Entry into the Body over which Christ is head...

Think: What did Paul say is required for someone's sins to be forgiven???

Repent?



CONFESS?

Admit need?

Baptism?

Prayer?

Obey?

Colossians 1

Salvation: truth common to Mystery and Prophecy

Acts 13:37-39 But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption. Be it known unto you therefore, men *and* brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

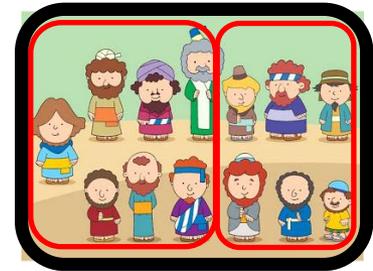
Christ died,
was buried,
and rose again!
1Cor 15:3-4



Apostle Paul

over which Christ is head
Body of Christ
Mystery

Jesus Saves!



Grace

Moreover, brethren, I declare unto the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved
1Cor 15:1-2a

Entry into the Body over which Christ is head...

Think: What did Paul say is required for someone's sins to be forgiven???



1Corinthians 15:12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?



Acts 23:8a For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit

1Corinthians 15:13-14 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain.



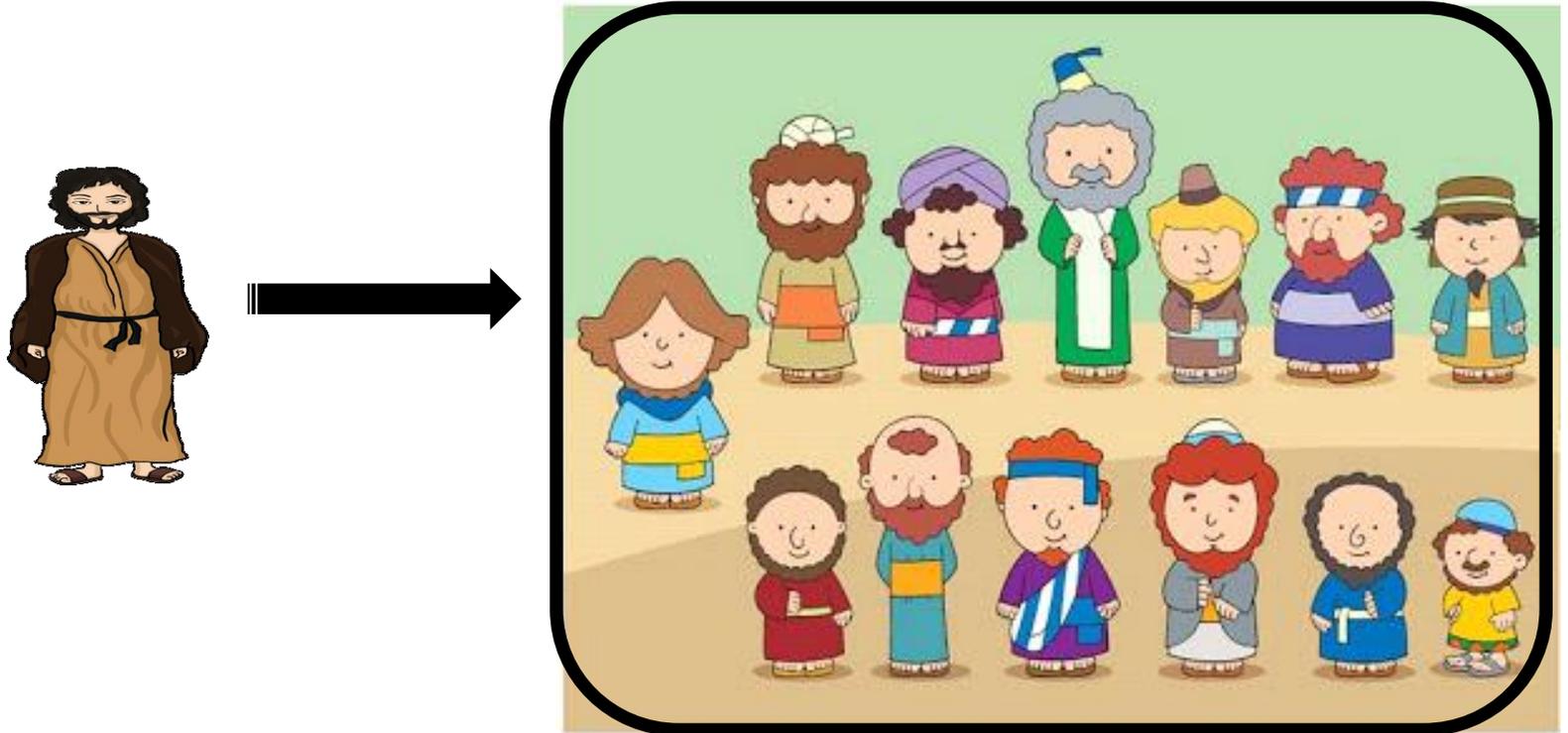
Acts 23:8a For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit

1Corinthians 15:16-17 For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith *is* vain; ye are yet in your sins.



Acts 23:8a For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit

1Corinthians 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept.



1Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Colossians 1

Salvation: truth common to Mystery and Prophecy

Ephesians 1:13b
...after that ye
heard the word of
truth, the gospel of
your salvation: in
whom also after
that ye believed, ye
were sealed with
that holy Spirit of
promise

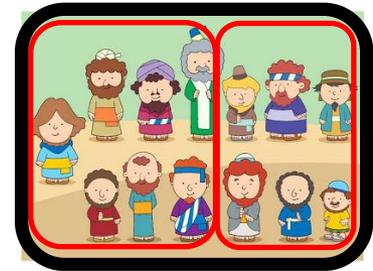
Christ
died,
was buried,
and rose again!
1Cor 15:3-4



Apostle Paul

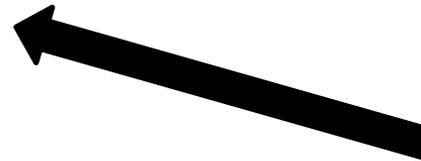
over which Christ is head
Body of Christ
Mystery

**Jesus
Saves!**



Grace

Moreover, brethren, I
declare unto the gospel
which I preached unto
you, which also ye have
received, and wherein ye
stand; By which also ye
are saved
1Cor 15:1-2a



Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:19-20 For it pleased *the Father* that in him should all fulness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, *I say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven.

Ephesians 1:10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even in* him

Colossians 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, *I say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven. (continued)

2Corinthians 5:18, 20 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; ... Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

Ephesians 2:16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby

Note: the truth of Eph 2:16 was MYSTERY revealed by Paul

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:21-23 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproueable in his sight: ...

Nehemiah 9:33-35 Howbeit thou *art* just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly: Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept thy law, nor hearkened unto thy commandments and thy testimonies, wherewith thou didst testify against them. For they have not served thee in their kingdom, and in thy great goodness that thou gavest them, and in the large and fat land which thou gavest before them, neither turned they from their wicked works.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:21-23 ...If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister

Psalms 119:89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

Luke 21:13-15 And it shall turn to you for a testimony. Settle *it* therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.

Acts 6:9-10 Then there arose certain of the synagogue ... disputing with Stephen. And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:21-23 ...If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister

Ephesians 1:13 In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise

Note: Paul's command "be not moved away from the hope of the gospel": one cannot be moved away from salvation because the one saved is "in Christ" (2Cor 5:17), "sealed with that holy Spirit of promise" (Eph 1:14), "a new creature" (2Cor 5:17), and already "made us sit together in heavenly places" (Eph 2:6).

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:21-23 ...If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard

Romans 8:35, 38-39 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ... For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Note: Paul here further establishes that one cannot of themselves, nor can any other creature separate us.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:21-23 ...If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister

Question: What is “the hope of the gospel”?

Response:

- Eph 1:18 ...the hope of His calling
- Col 1:5 ...the hope which is laid up for you in heaven
- Col 1:27 ...the hope of glory
- 1Th 4:13 ...as others which have no hope (ie: caught up together)
- Tit 2:13 ...that blessed hope
- Tit 3:7 ...heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:21-23 ...If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister

Colossians 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him

2Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Galatians 6:15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:21-23 ...If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister (continued)

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 3:6-7 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

Ephesians 4:24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:24-29 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; *Even* the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church

2Timothy 2:9 Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, *even* unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.

2Corinthians 11:24-27 Of the Jews five times received I forty *stripes* save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; *In* journeyings often, *in* perils of waters, *in* perils of robbers, *in* perils by *mine own* countrymen, *in* perils by the heathen, *in* perils in the city, *in* perils in the wilderness, *in* perils in the sea, *in* perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:25-26 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; *Even the mystery* which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints

The mystery:

Ephesians 3:6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel

1Corinthians 2:7-8 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom*, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known *it*, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory

The Body over which Christ is head

Called saints

1. Called
 2. Vocation
 3. Gifted
 4. Members in particular
- Eph 4, 1Cor 12



Partakers
of the
benefit

1. Brethren
 2. Faithful
 3. Beloved
- 1Tim 6:1-2

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:28-29 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

2Corinthians 5:9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

Galatians 4:11 I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain.

Philippians 2:16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

Colossians 1

¶Colossians 1:28-29 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

1Thessalonians 3:5 For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

1Timothy 4:10 For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.

Colossians 2

REMINDER - Paul's epistle is addressed:

Col 1:2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse

Col 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body

Note: called saints ~~≠~~ little flock saints:

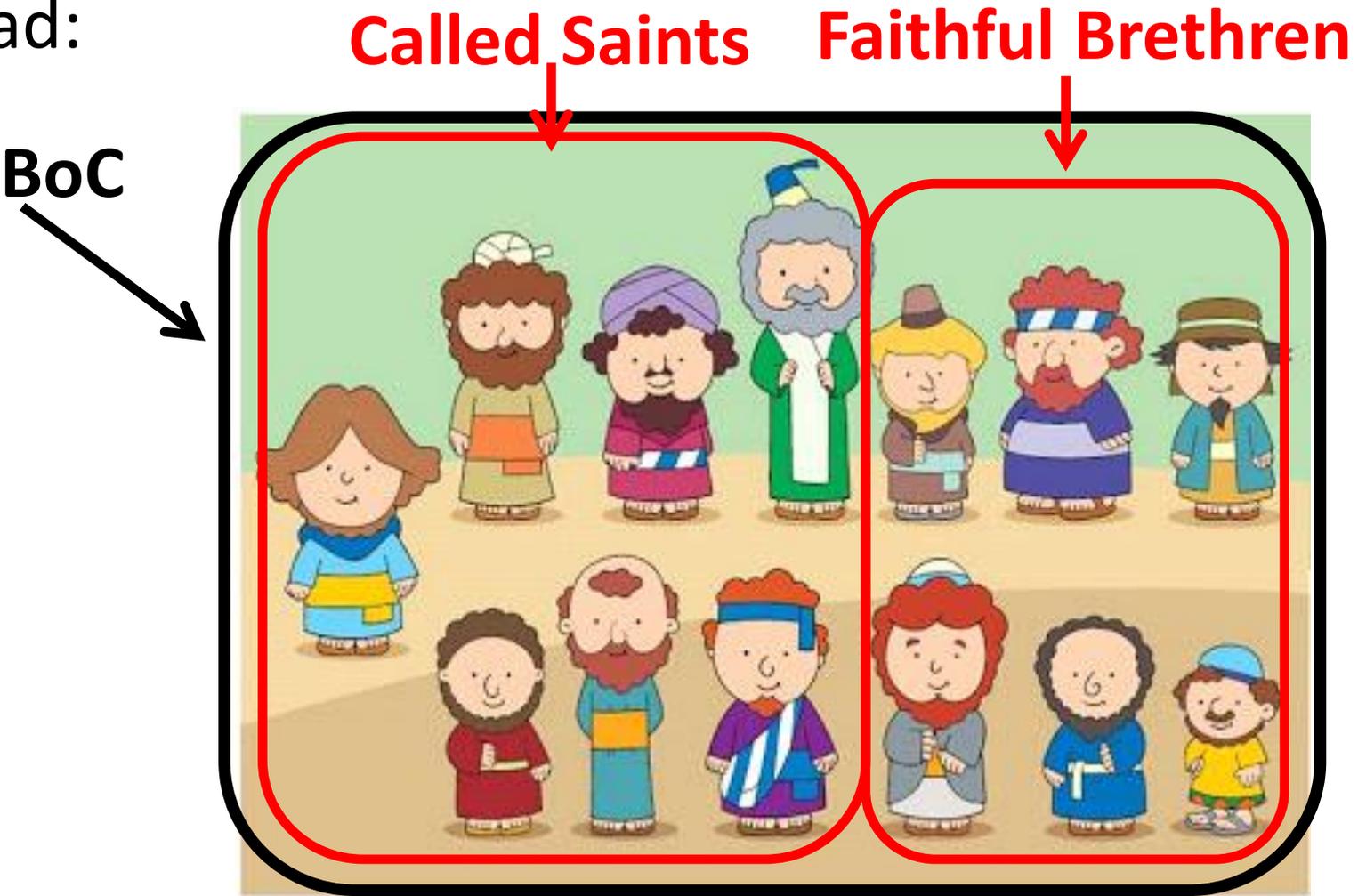


≠



Colossians 2

REMINDER – The “called saints” are together with the “faithful brethren” in the Body over which Christ is head:



Colossians 2

Chapter 2 opening observations:

Doctrinal correction:

1. v.4 “...lest any man should beguile you...”

To “beguile” is very similar to deceive

2. v.8 “...Beware lest any man spoil you...”

To “spoil”: defeat, and take possession: the spoils of war
Numbers 31:53 *For the men of war had taken spoil, every man for himself.*

3. v.16 “Let no man judge you...”

To “judge” is similar to condemn, or call in question

4. v.18 “Let no man beguile you of your reward...”

Deception concerning the saints’ reward

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:1-3 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and *for* them at Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh; That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Colossians 2

¶ Colossians 2:1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh

Note: the “great conflict” being that as much as Paul wanted to be with them: he was in a Roman prison.

Note: Paul speaks of the BoC that is located in Laodicea though not the same as the “church of the Laodiceans” Rev 1:11

Q: How would one know the Revelation “church of the Laodiceans” is not of the BoC?

R: Compare what is said by Paul, and by John to each.





Colossians 2

First note how Paul addresses those of the BoC.

The Apostle Paul to the Colossian saints and faithful brethren:

¶ Colossians 1:3-5, 7-8 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints, For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel; ... As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

Colossians 2

Next, consider how John addresses the Laodiceans.

The Apostle John unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans:

Revelation 3:15-16, 21 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. ... To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

Note: the use of the words “works”, and “overcome”

Note: the grant to sit with Christ is conditional.

Colossians 2

John addresses the Laodiceans:

Revelation 3:15-16, 19 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. ... As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

Note: the words, “I know” shows their “works” are being judged. A warning is given, and that determined for them is stated. And yet, they are rebuked and chastened (ie: instruct) because they are loved and commanded to “repent”.

Colossians 2

Note: Paul writes only once in this context (to “overcome”) and that in the context of the prophetic writings to the circumcised Jew.

Romans 3:1-4 What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit *is there* of circumcision? Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God. For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.

Colossians 2

Note: Paul writes concerning “works” where the context is justification:

Romans 4:5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Romans 11:6 And if by grace, then *is it* no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if *it be* of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

Colossians 2

Note: Paul also writes concerning “works” where the context is regarding “labourers together with God” (Gal 3:9):

1Corinthians 3:13-15 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

Note: Corinthians is addressed to “called *to be* saints” (the BoC). The judgement of their “works” is yet in the future and concerns their “reward”, or loss of reward.

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:2-3 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Note: Paul wanted to comfort them concerning the “mystery”.

Note: No mention of the “mystery” in the writings of the Apostle John.

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:4-5 And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words. For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the stedfastness of your faith in Christ.

Note: “...lest any man should beguile you with enticing words” indicates they were susceptible to certain deception.

Note: “...beholding your order...” is consistent with them (the called saints) being “members in particular” (1Cor 12:27).

Note: “...stedfastness...” is consistent with Paul writing that they “...be not moved away from the hope of the gospel”.

Colossians 2

¶ Colossians 2:6-7 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Note: The called saints were gifted, but needed to be taught concerning their walk:

1Corinthians 7:17 But as God hath distributed to every man, as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk.
And so ordain I in all churches.

To the “faithful brethren”, this order applies as wisdom.

Note: The called saints were “rooted”, and “stablished” (ie: made firm).

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:8-10 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. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power

Colossians 2

¶ 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.

Note: Calvinism and Arminianism are examples today of “philosophy...after the traditions of men”.

Note: “vain deceit” ~ empty deception.

Note: “Darwinian Evolution”, and the “Big Bang” are examples today of “vain deceit...after the traditions of men”.

Note: “rudiments of the world” ~ basic worldly beliefs

Colossians 2

¶ Colossians 2:9-10 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power

Note: There were those who evidently were teaching the believers in Colosse needed to do something to be complete:

Colossians 2:16 Let no man therefore judge you...

Colossians 2:18 Let no man beguile you...

Colossians 2:20 ...why... are ye subject to ordinances...

The question often asked today of a believer:

“What are you doing for Christ?”

As faithful brethren and partakers of the benefit, we are resting in the gift of God.

The believer today may do, or not do, as may a “man desire”.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:11-15 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with *him* through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 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; *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ

Ephesians 2:11 Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands

1Corinthians 7:18 Is any man called being circumcised? let him not become uncircumcised. Is any called in uncircumcision? let him not be circumcised.

Note: It is the Hebrew, those of Israel that are the “called”:

Genesis 21:12 And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with *him* through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

Q: how is one who identifies with the death and burial of Christ raised?

R: “...through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Him from the dead.”

Psalms 28:5 Because they regard not the works of the LORD, nor the operation of his hands, he shall destroy them, and not build them up.

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:13-14 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 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

Q: Who is “you”, and “us”?

R: The “you” and “us” are the ones having “ordinances” that were against them: Israel, the Hebrews

Exodus 18:20 And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Note: To “spoil”: defeat, and includes taking possession:

Mark 3:23-27 *And* he called them *unto him*, and said unto them in parables, How can Satan cast out Satan? And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand. And if Satan rise up against himself, and be divided, he cannot stand, but hath an end. No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.

Question:

Are the words “Jew” and “Hebrew” interchangeable?

Hebrew: the identity of an ethnicity:

Abram was a Hebrew:

Genesis 14:13a And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew...

Jonah was a Hebrew:

Jonah 1:9 And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew...

Paul was a Hebrew:

Philippians 3:5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews...

Jew: one under the Mosaic Law including circumcision, the keeping of the sabbath, diet, and follows certain traditions and customs: all together the Jews' religion.

Romans 2:17 Behold, thou art called a Jew, and retest in the law, and makest thy boast of God

Mark 7:3 For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash *their* hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders.

Paul was a Jew:

Galatians 1:14a And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation...

Philippians 3:5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee

Question: What is an uncircumcised ~~Jew~~ Hebrew?

(Correction: the “Question” should have read as now worded)

Response: “the rebellious” and “Gentiles in the flesh”

Psalm 68:18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, *for* the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell *among them*.

Ephesians 2:11 Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands

Through whose faith is the believer (DoGG) saved?

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God

Romans 3:24-26 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Through whose faith is the believer (DoGG) saved?

Galatians 2:16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

Ephesians 3:12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

Through whose faith is the believer (DoGG) saved?

Philippians 3:9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith

Colossians 2:12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with *him* through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

The believer (DoGG) has “faith in Christ”:

Colossians 1:4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love *which ye have* to all the saints

Colossians 2:5 For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

Salvation (ie: justification) outside of the DoGG is “by faith”, while during the DoGG is “through faith”:

Romans 3:30 Seeing *it is* one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

Hebrews 11 (all are said, “by faith”; none were in the DoGG)

Paul's Epistle to the Colossians

Chapter 2

The Apostle Paul sends a letter of doctrinal correction to Colosse.

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Note: This was made possible by the resurrection of Christ:

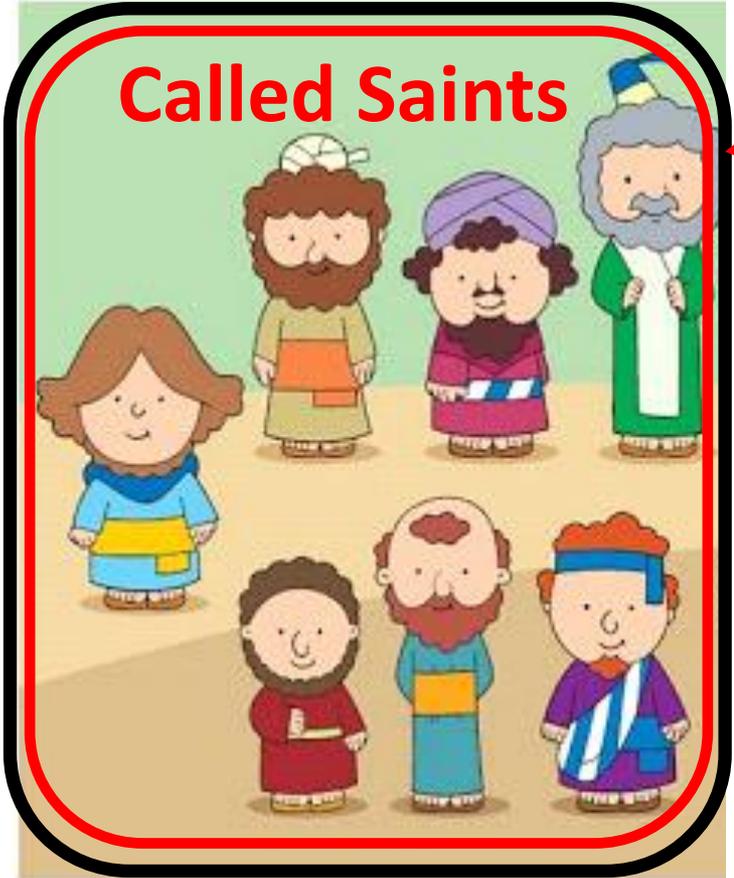
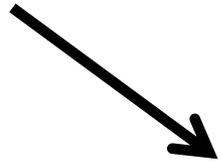
Psalms 68:18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, *for the rebellious also*, that the LORD God might dwell *among them*.

Ephesians 4:8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

Colossians 2

Psalm 68:18b ...thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.

BoC



“The Rebellious”



Gentiles in the flesh:
the Uncircumcised Hebrew

“Fellowservants”



Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Note: This was made possible by the resurrection of Christ:

Psalms 68:18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell *among them*.

Note: The resurrection enabled Christ to take those that were captive to Satan as His captive: Christ spoiled principalities and powers and made a shew of them openly.

This was **NOT** a mystery!!!

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Note: This was made possible by the resurrection of Christ:

Isaiah 49:24-25 Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the **lawful captive** delivered? But thus saith the LORD, Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered: for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children.

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Q: How was it lawfully possible to take the lawful captive of “the mighty”?

R: A ransom was paid to redeem that which had been lost.

Job 12:19 He leadeth princes away spoiled, and overthroweth the mighty.

Note: “the mighty” = Satan

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Note: Jesus paid the ransom, with His own blood, to redeem that which was lost:

Psalms 49:14-15 Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them; and the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling. But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me. Selah.

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Note: Jesus paid the ransom to redeem that which was lost:

Isaiah 43:1 But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called *thee* by thy name; thou *art* mine.

Hosea 13:14 I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Romans 3:24-26 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Note: “propitiation” is to say: mercyseat

Note: it is “through faith”

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

1John 2:1-2 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world.

Note: “propitiation”: mercyseat

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Hebrews 10:11-14 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Q: What's the point of the "priest standing daily"?

R: There was no place for the priest to sit in the temple; the sacrificing was never a finished work.

Psalms 110:1 The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Note: Jesus paid the ransom to redeem that which was lost:

Revelation 5:9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation

Note: “by thy blood”: the ransom paid to redeem.

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:16-19 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath *days*: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body *is* of Christ. Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:16-17 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath *days*: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body *is* of Christ.

Note: Hebrew matters contained in the Law given through Moses:

1. Diet
2. Days

Hebrews 10:1 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility ...

Note: “beguile you”; deception that could impact the called saints’ reward.

Note: “voluntary”: to choose, or not choose to appear humble; hypocritical

1. Outwardly showing humility:

2Chronicles 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Colossians 2

Jesus warned those following Him:

Matthew 6:16-18 Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

Colossians 2

Colossians 2:18 ...and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind...

2. Angel worship:

Revelation 22:8-9 And I John saw these things, and heard *them*. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See *thou do it not*: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:18 ...and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind...

3. Puffed up:

1Corinthians 4:6 And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and *to* Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think *of men* above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another.

Colossians 2

¶Colossians 2:19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

4. The body together:

1Corinthians 12:24 For our comely *parts* have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that *part* which lacked

Ephesians 4:16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Colossians 2

¶ Colossians 2:20-23 Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, (Touch not; taste not; handle not; Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men? Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.

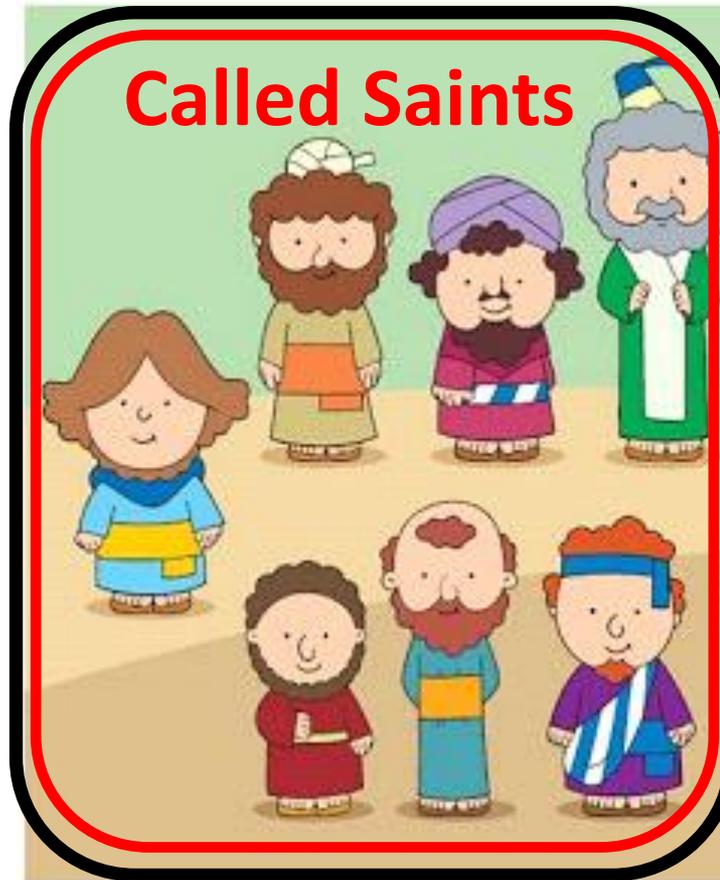
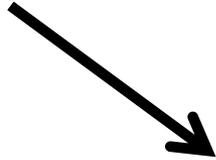
Note: These were matters concerning which the Hebrews were very susceptible:

1. Ordinances
2. Commandments
3. Doctrines of men

Colossians 2

Psalm 68:18b ...thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.

BoC



“The Rebellious”



Gentiles in the flesh:
the Uncircumcised Hebrew

“Fellowservants”

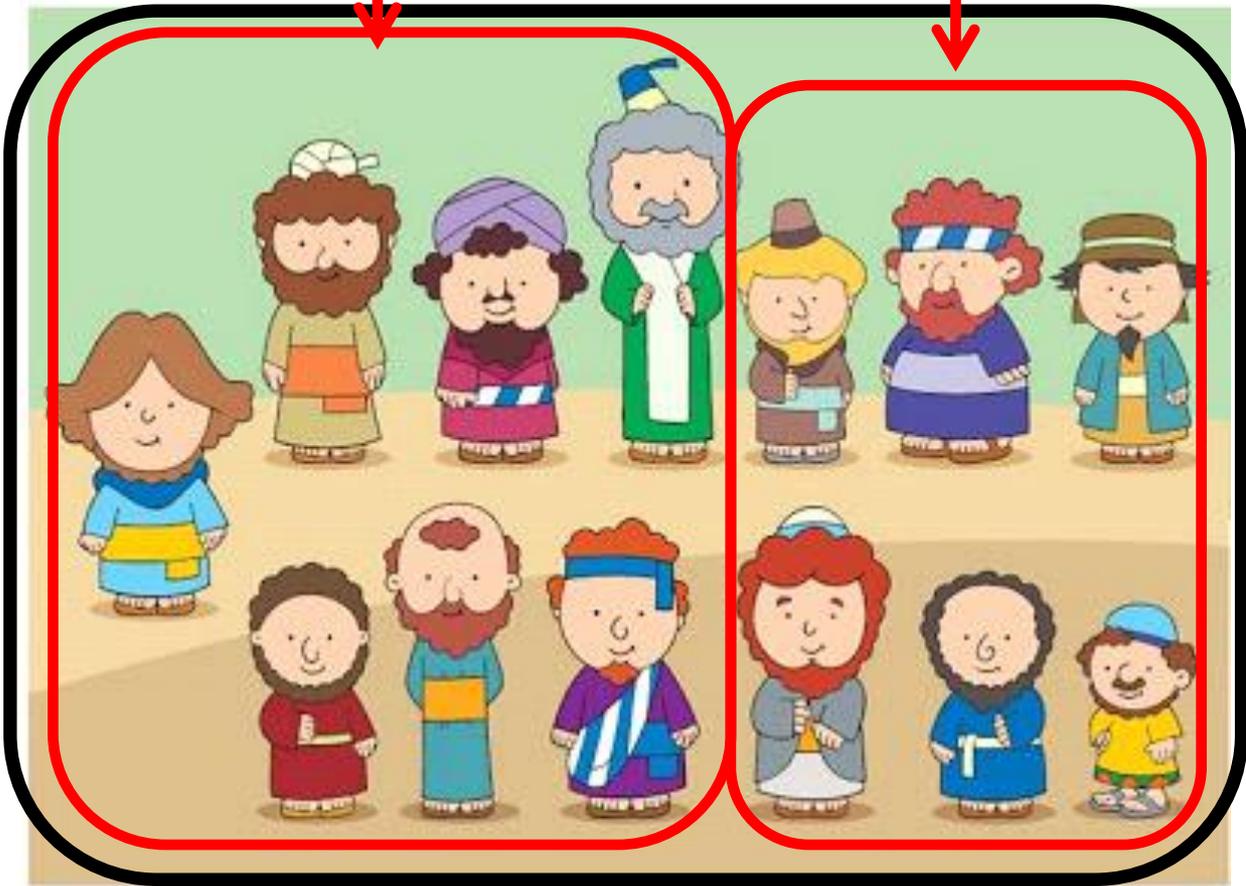


Colossians 2

REMINDER – The “called saints” are together with the “faithful brethren” in the Body over which Christ is head:

Called Saints **Faithful Brethren**

BoC
↙



Paul's Epistle to the Colossians

Chapter 3

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:1-4 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Note: “If” in the sense: since

Q: Why “seek those things which are above”?

Note: Carefully notice the instruction is to “seek those things which are above”; “things”, as opposed to “Christ”.

R: “Above” is where Christ is located. The day is coming when we will no longer be concerned with the “things” which are of this earth.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above

Q: Why “seek those things which are above” ...what will it be?

Trans-dispensational truth...



1 Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

Isaiah 64:4 For since the beginning of the world *men* have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, *what* he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above

Q: Why “seek those things which are above” ...what will it be?

Trans-dispensational truth...



1Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written,

*Eye hath not seen,
nor ear heard,
neither have entered into the heart of man,
the things which God hath prepared
for them that love him.*

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above

Q: Why “seek those things which are above” ...what will it be?

Ephesians 2:7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Note: Christ is currently seated.

Psalm 110:1 *A Psalm of David*. The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Matthew 22:44 The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool

Acts 2:34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand

Psalms 110:1 *[A Psalm of David.]* The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Q: What has, and will cause Christ to “stand”?

R: Blasphemy – those of the synagogue accused Stephen:

Acts 6:9-11 Then there arose certain of the synagogue ... disputing with Stephen. And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake. Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and *against* God.

Colossians 3

The record in Scripture concerning Stephen:

Acts 7:55-56 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Note: by these words we can know the world has not entered the Great Tribulation, the time of Jacob's Trouble!

Colossians 3

Acts 7:59-60 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.

Q: What was the sin to which Stephen referred?

R: The Jews were refusing the voice by which Stephen spake.

Q: What does Stephen being full of the Holy Ghost have to do with their sin?

R: They accused Stephen of blasphemy ➡ Acts 6:13

Note: The sin was blasphemy (irreverence) against the H.G.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Q: Paul says that Christ is currently seated. How is it that Jesus is seated when Stephen saw Jesus standing?

R: Stephen's prayer was one of intercession on their behalf.

Acts 7:60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Note: Stephen interceded with prayer. Judgement for their sin of blasphemy was stayed, but NOT forgiven.

Colossians 3

Q: Does Stephen pray that those stoning him be forgiven?

Acts 7:60a “...Lord, lay not this sin to their charge”

R: No – the specific words “lay not...to their charge”

R: No – the sin of blasphemy against the H.G. cannot be forgiven under the Law

Matthew 12:31-32 Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy *against* the *Holy* Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the *world* to come.

Colossians 3

Q: Can a believer today during this Dispensation of the Grace of God become unforgiven for blasphemy against the Holy Ghost, or for any sin?!?!?

R: No – all sins of the believer are forgiven during the present DoGG:

Colossians 2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses

Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Colossians 3

Q: Have there been prayers of intercession in the past that averted the judgement of God?

R: Numbers 16:41, 44-48 But on the morrow all the congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron ... And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Get you up from among this congregation, that I may consume them as in a moment. And they fell upon their faces. And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a censer ... and go quickly ... make an atonement for them ... And he stood between the dead and the living; and the plague was stayed.

Colossians 3

Q: Isn't there a sin unto death?

R: The "sin unto death" shall exist yet again after the end of the DoGG:

1John 5:16-17 If any man see his brother sin a sin *which is* not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it. All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Q: When will Christ again stand in the future?

R: Revelation 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Q: What will cause Christ to stand in the future?

R: Revelation 13:4-6 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who *is* like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty *and* two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

Colossians 3

Q: What happens after the blasphemy by “the beast”?

R: The hour of His judgment is come:

Revelation 14:1, 6-7 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion ... And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

Note: This next time Jesus stands due to blasphemy will commence the final 1260 days of the Time of Jacob’s Trouble (Jeremiah 30:7).

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:2-4 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Note: “Set your affections on things above...”.

Q: Why “above”?

R: Philippians 3:20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ

Note: “conversation” = citizenship; the believer’s citizenship is in heaven!

Note: We have “things” on the earth; Paul tells us there are “things” in heaven which is where our affection belongs!

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:2-4 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, *who is our life*, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Q: How does the believer know we will live in heaven, not on the earth?

R: We know that Christ is seated by the Father, and the Body over which Christ is head will “appear with Him”; together:

Ephesians 2:6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:5-7 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

Note: Paul is commanding the saints, “also called” Col 3:15, at Colosse. For the “faithful brethren in Christ” Paul’s command is wisdom, knowledge and understanding (Colossians 1:9):

1. “mortify” is wisdom
2. “the wrath of God cometh” is knowledge
3. “ye also walked some time” is understanding

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:8-11 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: but Christ *is* all, and in all.

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:8-9 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds

2Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Ephesians 4:24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:10-11 And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond *nor* free: but Christ *is* all, and in all.

- Note:**
1. Greek = the educated
 2. Jew = the religious
 3. circumcision = the lawful
 4. uncircumcision = the rebellious
 3. Barbarian = the working
 4. Scythian = the vagabond
 5. bond = the enslaved
 6. free = the unencumbered

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:12-17 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do* ye. And above all these things *put on* charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And 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.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering

Q: Who are the “elect of God”?

R: First to be “elect” are certain angels:

1Timothy 5:21 I charge *thee* before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering

Q: Who are the “elect of God”?

R: Next to be “elect” Israel:

Isaiah 45:4 For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering

Q: Who are the “elect of God”?

R: Finally on the list of the “elect”:

1Peter 1:1-2 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do ye*.

Ephesians 4:2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love

Note: to forebear ~ to endure something undesired.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do ye*.

Colossians 1:14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins

Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:14 And above all these things *put on* charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

Note: “perfectness” as in completeness; nothing to be added.

1Corinthians 13:4 Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up

1Corinthians 3:3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

Note: the walk of the saints was ordered by Paul.

1Corinthians 16:14 Let all your things be done with charity.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Ephesians 2:14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*

Ephesians 4:3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Colossians 1:20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, / *say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Romans 12:4-5 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

Colossians 3

1Corinthians 12:12-13, 20 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether *we be* bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. ... But now *are they* many members, yet but one body.

Note: “Jews” = believing Hebrews of the Kingdom

Note: “Gentiles” = uncircumcised Hebrews, and others of the nations, all of whom are believers.

Colossians 3

Ephesians 2:16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby

Ephesians 4:4 *There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling

Colossians 3

Ephesians 2:19-22 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

John 14:2 *In my Father's house are many mansions:*

if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

Note: “an habitation”: one habitation with many abodes.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Note: who, at the time of Paul's writing, could possibly know "psalms and hymns and spiritual songs" but the Hebrews?

Matthew 26:30 And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

Ephesians 5:19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord

Colossians 3

1Chronicles 16:9 Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

Psalms 98:5 Sing unto the LORD with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm.

Psalms 105:2 Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works.

James 5:13 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

Note: all the above instruction written to the Hebrews.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:17 And 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.

Q: is this what I do today?

R: oops!

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:18 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

Genesis 2:18 And the LORD God said, *It is not good* that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

1Corinthians 11:8-9 For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:18 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

Trans-dispensational truth...



Proverbs 19:13b the contentions of a wife *are* a continual dropping.

Proverbs 21:9, 19 *It is* better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house. ... *It is* better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman.

Colossians 3

¶ Colossians 3:19 Husbands, love *your wives*, and be not bitter against them.

Ephesians 5:25, 28 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it ... He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

Q: How does a wife know, for sure, that her husband loves her?

“Does he love me, I want to know ... How can I tell if he loves me so...”

R: The husband tells and reminds his wife that he loves her.

Q: Who was the first man of whom it was said he loved his wife?

Hint: it wasn't Adam...all said of Adam is that he “knew his wife”.

R: Genesis 24:67, 29:18 Isaac loved Rebekah; Jacob loved Rachel

Paul's Epistle to the Colossians

Chapter 3 (continued)

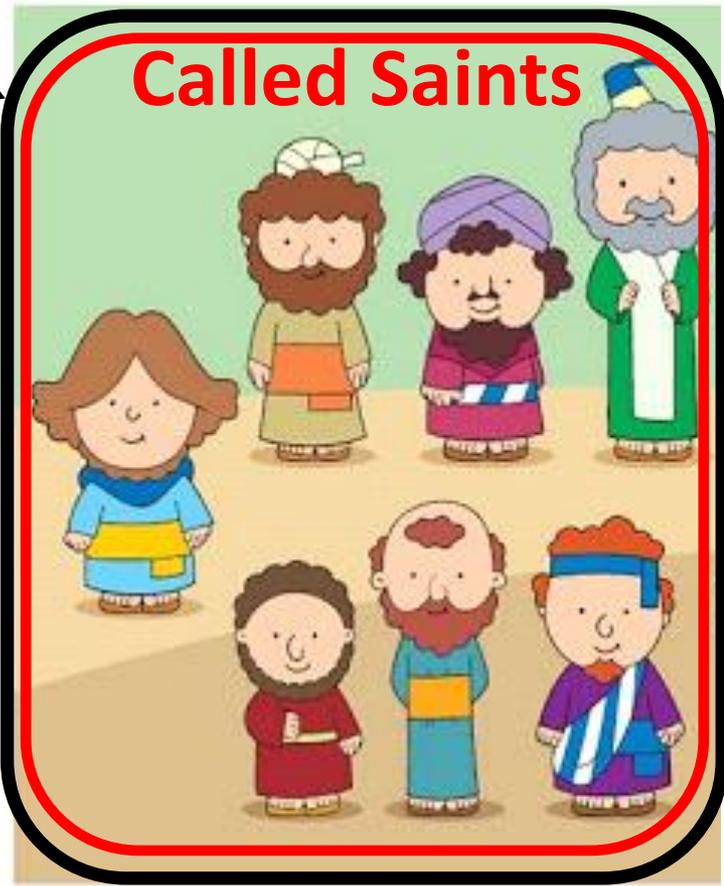
**Refresh our view of the Body over
which Christ is Head**

The BoC

Colossians study...

Psalm 68:18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, **for the rebellious also**, that the LORD God might dwell *among them*.

Body of Christ initial members



“The Rebellious”

Gentiles in the flesh:
the Uncircumcised
Hebrew

“Fellowservants”

“called to be saints”
were under Paul’s
“command” (1Thess
4:11); expected to
“obey” (2Thess 3:14).

Colossians study...

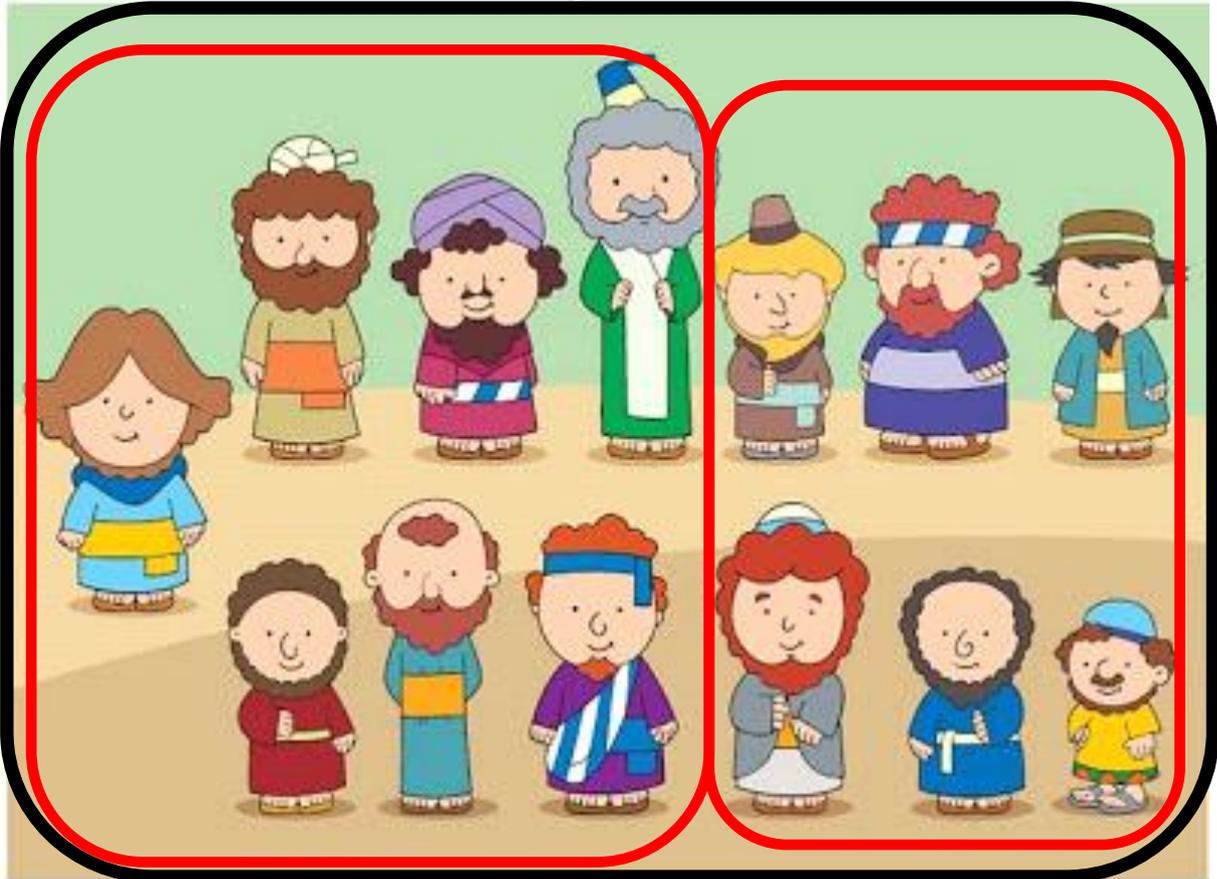
REMINDER – The “called saints” are together with the “faithful brethren” in the Body over which Christ is head:

Body of Christ

Called Saints



- Of Paul:
- ✓ command
 - ✓ obey
 - ✓ work
 - ✓ suffer
 - ✓ judged
 - ✓ rewarded



Faithful Brethren



- Of Paul:
- ✓ wisdom
 - ✓ knowledge
 - ✓ understanding

Colossians 3

What Paul wrote to the called saints was to direct them of what they were expected to do...

...Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed

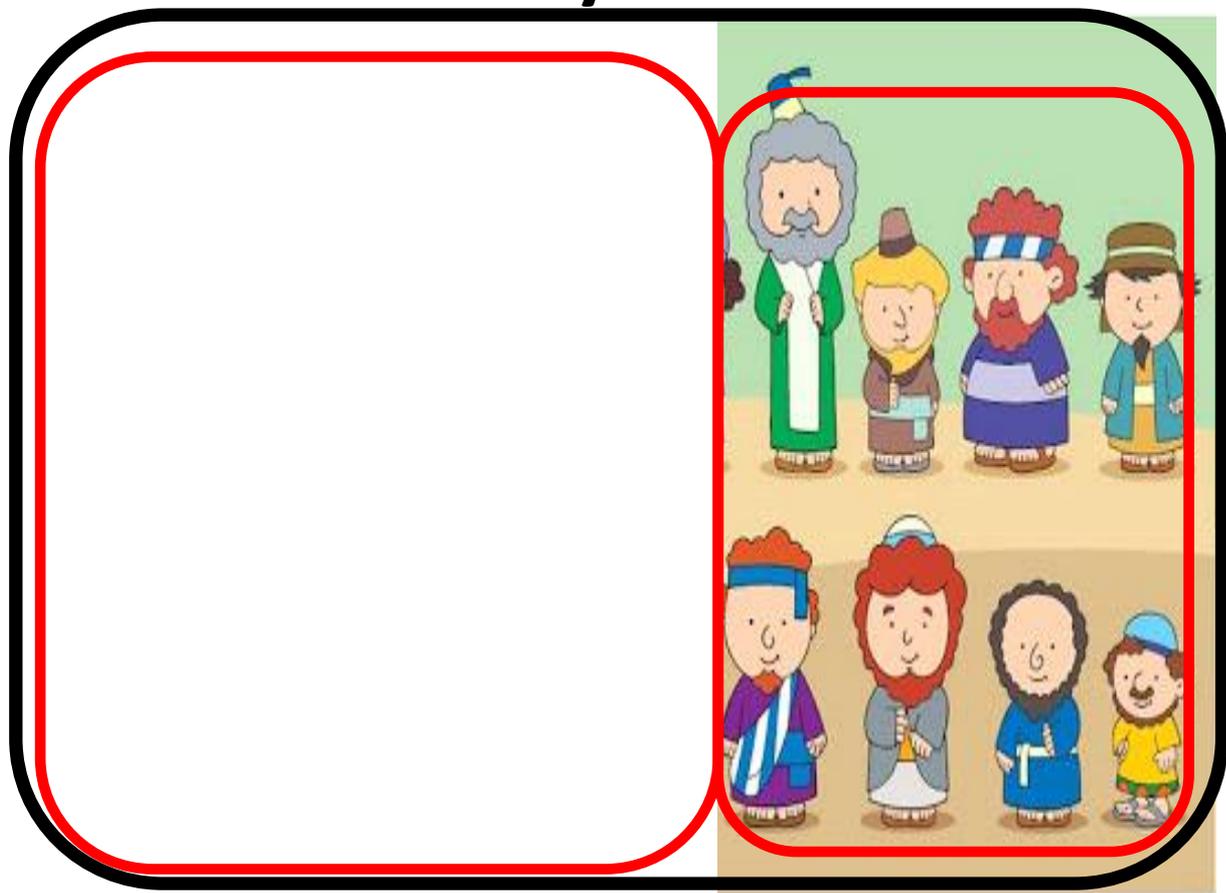
2Corinthians 6:3

The called saints being members in particular, along with their vocation and gifts, are all long ago departed from the earth.

Colossians study...

The “faithful brethren” are all that alive and remain on earth of the Body over which Christ is head:

Body of Christ



**Faithful
Brethren**



- Of Paul:
- ✓ wisdom
 - ✓ knowledge
 - ✓ understanding

Colossians 3

What Paul wrote to the faithful brethren, partakers of the benefit and beloved, alive, and remain, is for their comfort...

...And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

1Thessalonians 1:10

Paul's Epistle to the Colossians

Chapter 3 (continued)

Colossians 3

¶ Colossians 3:19 Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not bitter against them.

Q: Why does Paul say, “and be not bitter against them”?

R: Hebrew husband could be “bitter” against their wives!

Divorce under the Law –

Matthew 19:3 The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?

Note: “for every cause”: for any reason, plus adultery.

Note: The “cause” of adultery breaks the marriage vow.

Colossians 3

Divorce under the Law –

Matthew 19:4-6 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made *them* at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

The Pharisees test Jesus:

Matthew 19:7 They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?

Colossians 3

Divorce under the Law –

Matthew 19:8-10 He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except *it be* for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

His disciples say unto him, If the case of the man be so with *his* wife, it is not good to marry.

Colossians 3

Divorce under the Law –

“because of the hardness of your hearts”

Deuteronomy 24:1-2 When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give *it* in her hand, and send her out of his house.

And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's *wife*.

Colossians 3

Divorce under the Law –

Deuteronomy 24:3-4 And *if* the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth *it* in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her *to be* his wife; Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that *is* abomination before the LORD: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the LORD thy God giveth thee *for* an inheritance.

Colossians 3

Paul concerning divorce –

First Paul speaks by his own judgement:

1Corinthians 7:6 But I speak this by permission, *and* not of commandment.

Next, Paul speaks (to the called saints) by commandment:

1Corinthians 7:10-11 And unto the married I command, *yet* not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from *her* husband: But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to *her* husband: and let not the husband put away *his* wife.

Finally, Paul speaks again by his own judgement:

1Corinthians 7:12 But to the rest speak I, not the Lord...

Colossians 3

¶ Colossians 3:19 Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not bitter against them.

Van speaks by permission:

Q: What is the quintessential essence of femininity?

R: To respond – the feminine response:

“Yes” ... “No” ... “I have another idea” ... etc. etc. etc.

Q: What is the quintessential essence of masculinity?

R: To initiate – the masculine proposes:

“Where would you like to go for dinner?”

“What would you like to do afterwards?”

“When will you be ready?”

“I love you, will you marry me?”

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:19 Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not bitter against them.

Back to the Scriptures:

Q: Who is the MOST masculine of all?

R: The Godhead – declares love, and asks of love:

Jeremiah 31:3 The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

John 21:15b Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?

Colossians 3

¶ Colossians 3:19 Husbands, love *your* wives, and be not bitter against them.

Three reasons why a husband should tell his wife that he loves her:

1. She likes to hear it.

Song of Songs 2:10 My beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one

2. He needs to hear it.

Song of Songs 1:15a Behold, thou *art* fair, my love

3. It is Godly wisdom.

Colossians 3:19 Husbands, love your wives

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:20 Children, obey *your* parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

Note: written directly to “children”

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:21 Fathers, provoke not your children *to anger*, lest they be discouraged.

Note: the KJB translators inserted “to anger” perhaps for the reason “provoke” can be taken in other ways:

- Stir up
- Excite
- Stimulate

All of which could be taken in a good sense.

- To provoke *to anger* is not good.

Colossians 3

¶Colossians 3:22-25 Servants, obey in all things *your* masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God: And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:22-23 Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God: And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men

Note: The “servants” here are understood to be believers especially of the called saints, who are employed by “masters according to the flesh” which were employers outside of fellowship of believers:

2Corinthians 6:3 Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed

Colossians 3

Colossians 3:24-25 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

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

Note: “ye” = “called saints”; vocation = “servants” –

Eph. 1:18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints

2Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

Note: “partakers of the benefit” ≠ “servants” of the Lord.

Paul's Epistle to the Colossians

Chapter 4

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:1 Masters, give unto *your* servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven.

Note: Paul addresses “Masters” who also are called saints of the uncircumcised Hebrews. All the called (Col 3:15) were under the command of Paul:

2Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

2Corinthians 6:3 Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:2-4 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; 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: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

Note: “continue in prayer” means “continue in prayer”:

Philippians 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Note: “be careful for nothing”: be not anxious

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:2-4 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; 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: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

Ephesians 3:1-4 For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) ...

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:2-4 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; 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: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

Ephesians 3:5-7 ...Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of **the same body**, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

Q: What Gentiles?

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:2-4 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; 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: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

Note: Gentile salvation was NOT a mystery:

Isaiah 49:6 And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldst be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

R: Gentiles = the Uncircumcised Hebrew. Isaiah, a prophet of Israel speaks **prophetically** of the Uncircumcised.

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:2-4 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; 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: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

Note: Antioch in Pisidia Paul stood in the synagogue and repeated the words of the prophet Isaiah:

Acts 13:47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, *saying*, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:2-4 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; 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: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

Note: continued...Gentile salvation was NOT a mystery:

Acts 28:28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and *that* they will hear it.

Note: “the Gentiles...will hear it” starting with the Uncircumcised Hebrews, and continuing to people of the nations.

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:2-4 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; 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: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

Note: continued ... Gentile salvation was NOT a mystery:

Romans 11:11 I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but *rather* through their fall salvation *is come* unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy.

Colossians 4

Note: the Uncircumcised Hebrews were to provoke the Circumcised Hebrews to jealousy – this is all about Hebrew faith: both Uncircumcised (the rebellious) and Circumcised (the Lawful, Jews – who sought it NOT by faith).

Note: (continued) Antioch, Pisidia Paul in the synagogue:

Acts 13:42, 44-45 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath. ... And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God. But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:5-6 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech *be* always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

Note: “...toward them that are without...”: toward those outside the fellowship of believers.

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:5-6 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech *be* always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

Note: “...seasoned with salt...”: salt makes for good taste.

Job 6:6 Can that which is unsavoury be eaten without salt?

Note: “always”: ever

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:7-9 All my state shall Tychicus declare unto you, *who is* a beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellowservant in the Lord: Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that he might know your estate, and comfort your hearts; With Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is *one* of you. They shall make known unto you all things which *are done* here.

Note: “Tychicus” called a “fellowservant”. Epaphras also was called a “fellowservant”.

Note: “Onesimus”, runaway slave of Philemon, was not called a “fellowservant”.

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:10-11 Aristarchus my fellowprisoner saluteth you, and Marcus, sister's son to Barnabas, (touching whom ye received commandments: if he come unto you, receive him;) 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.

Note: Aristarchus, Marcus, and Justus were of Paul, at the time of his writing this epistle, his “only” fellow workers.

Note: “...unto the kingdom of God...”: the Kingdom of God is vast, not limited to the kingdom on earth.

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:12-15 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. For I bear him record, that he hath a great zeal for you, and them *that are* in Laodicea, and them in Hierapolis. Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you. Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.

Note:

- Epaphras – carried from and to Paul such as he needed.
- Luke – beloved physician, only to stay with Paul 2Tim 4:11
- Demas – a fellowlabourer Philemon 1:24, forsook Paul for the world 2Timothy 4:10
- Nymphas – had a church in his house.

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:12-15 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. For I bear him record, that he hath a great zeal for you, and them *that are* in Laodicea, and them in Hierapolis. Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you. Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house.



Colossians 4

Colossians 4:16-17 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. And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.

Note: “the epistle from Laodicea” is not known beyond this mention of Paul who is not recorded to have gone there.

Colossians 2:1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and *for* them at Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my face in the flesh

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:16-17 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. And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.

Note: Specific instruction to Archippus to fulfil the ministry he had received in the Lord who also was a fellowsoldier to Paul:

Philemon 1:2 And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier...

Colossians 4

Colossians 4:18 The salutation by the hand of me Paul.
Remember my bonds. Grace *be* with you. Amen.

Note: Paul put his hand to sign his epistle.