

All verses are copied from <https://biblehub.com/> in King James

Colossians

Colossae location

Paul writes to the Colossians due to reports of false teachers coming into or coming from within the congregation and teaching lies and heresy. We see it continuing today so this letter is valuable to us as we examine what is being taught in our Bible Studies and local congregations. Beware.

Greetings from Paul

([2 Samuel 6:12-15](#); [1 Chronicles 15:1-14](#); [Philippians 1:1-2](#))

1Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus *our* brother,

Sorry for getting on a rabbit trail, but I think it is important. Paul had to defend his position as an Apostle of Jesus. The issue of Apostles has raised its head even now in our time.

Apostles were used by Jesus to establish the foundation of The Church and Jesus is the Cornerstone. The foundation needed to be laid once.

Ephesians 2: [19](#)Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of

*the household of God; **20**And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; **21**In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: **22**In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. (emphasis mine)*

These chosen men were part of the foundation Jesus laid for The Church (The Body of Christ).

*Romans 12: **5**So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.*

*1 Corinthians 12: **27**Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.*

*Ephesians 4: **12**For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:*

The Body of Christ is the Church, it is no denomination, it is made up totally and completely of Believer from every nation in the world.

***13**Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:*

The Unity of the Faith only occurs in The Church, The Body of Christ. It is where each member of the Body of Christ is perfected either through death or rapture. It is only when we are in the actual presence of the Living God Jesus Christ that we will have the fulness of Christ.

14That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Jesus warned the Believers that there would be ravenous wolves from right in their own congregations. Pastors, Teachers, Elders, Deacons claiming to be Believers but not ever receiving Christ in and never having the Circumcision of their hearts.

Ezekiel 22:27 26Her priests do violence to My law and profane My holy things. They make no distinction between the holy and the common, and they fail to distinguish between the clean and the unclean. They disregard My Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them. 27Her officials within her are like wolves tearing their prey, shedding blood, and destroying lives for dishonest gain. 28Her prophets whitewash these deeds by false visions and lying divinations, saying, ‘This is what the Lord GOD says,’ when the LORD has not spoken....

Ezekiel written to the Jewish nation but applicable to the christian nation.

Acts 20:29 28Keep watch over yourselves and the entire flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which He purchased with His own blood. 29! know that after my departure, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. 30Even from your own number, men will rise up and distort the truth to draw away disciples after them....

Matthew 7:15 Beware of false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

Picking up again in:

Ephesians 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 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.

There are misconceptions about in the christian community (small c) and world community as to what is The Church (Big C) is. The Church is not buildings, nor denominations, nor religions. The Church is people fitted together in whatever fashion they are able to come together to worship the Father, the Creator of the Universe. Some of our Brothers and Sisters in the Lord must hide their meetings or face death. Unlike here in the US and most free nations where we can worship our God openly. That to may change.

There is only ONE WAY to the Father and that is through the SON, Jesus Christ. There are no Jews nor Gentiles, no Baptists, Methodists or Lutherans, there are ONLY BELIEVERS.

When God fashioned The Church, He did it in such a way as to link it directly to Jesus Christ His Only Son. In the construction of The Church, God through His Son began by selecting specific individuals to be Apostles. Apostles means “those sent on a mission”. The mission given the First and only Apostles up to and including Paul was to go into all the World and share the Good

News, Baptizing in the Name of Jesus. Jesus laid the foundation of what the Church was to be and the Apostles and Disciples were to build on that foundation with Truth.

Apostles were a one-time event to establish the foundation of The Church. I bring this up to warn you of false teachers that are in the world today claiming to be Apostles and demanding obedience. I won't go into a lengthy discussion about them other than to say, anyone who claims to be an Apostle of Jesus Christ today under the Authority that God used to create The Church is a liar and evil, beware. One such group is the NAR New Apostolic Reformation and are headquartered in Redding CA. They have included in their own foundation perhaps by hijacking or willing compliance singing groups according to Jan Markel, like "Hillsong". Beware. I am unaware of what these singing groups are doing that is problematic. NAR has sent these so called Apostles throughout the US and the World proselytizing religious people to commit to their doctrine. Entire congregations have been swayed into the lie.

2To 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.

This letter from Paul is to the Believers "faithful brethren" in Colosse.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

[\(1 Corinthians 1:4-9; Philippians 1:3-11; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4\)](#)

Most Bible Scholars find no evidence that Paul had started this group of believers. It is thought that he not ever visited them. However, it was through his work and a coworker of Paul's that had gone to Colosse and began this work. Epaphras is his name.

3We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, 4Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love *which ye have* to all the saints, 5For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel; 6Which 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:

This is not a trick question it is answered directly from a verse we have cited many times.

Q. How are we saved?

Ephesians 2:8 8For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Paul in vs 6 references the Believers in Colosse coming to:
“since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth:

Our Salvation hinges on God being Truthful, our hope hinges on God being Truthful. Through our study of His Word which is born out in our own lives we know that God is Truth. Jesus tells us

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (emphasis mine)

There is no other Truth than God's Truth. There may be all kinds of facts generated by men, governments, and education, but the real Truth, the Truth that lasts an eternity is God's Truth. Any deviation from the truth is a lie.

7As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; 8Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

Love in the Spirit can only be generated by the Spirit. The Holy Spirit of God that indwells each Believer. It is through the Power of the Holy Spirit that we can love in the Spirit as Paul references these Believers in vs 8.

8Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

9For 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; **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;
11Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; **12**Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

You may not have noticed the list that Paul gives here likely in order of occurrence.

1. Filled with the knowledge of HIS WILL (finding God's Will for your life)
2. In Wisdom and Spiritual understanding
3. That ye might walk worthy of the Lord
4. Being Fruitful in every good work
5. Increasing in the knowledge of God

With those things being part of their everyday lives the result for all of us will be:

1. Strengthened, according to His Glorious Power
2. In Patience
3. In Long suffering
4. And Joyfulness

All the while giving thanks to God.

13Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:

It is easy to gloss over this word “translated” as in God translated us into His Kingdom and that of the Kingdom of His Son, Jesus Christ.

We know from the Garden of Eden that Satan was given dominion (title deed) over the earth from Adam and Eve. That was all rectified legally when Christ was crucified, died, and rose from the dead. His resurrection from the dead, the first to do so to eternity regained the authority over all of creation, (title deed). Jesus has not taken that legal authority over the earth and will not until His second return at the Battle of Armageddon. We first see His full authority at the beginning of the Millennial Reign of Christ where He and He alone has full authority over the earth and creation.

This “translated” or better “translation” of Believers from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of Jesus happens the moment of Salvation. When you admit you are a sinner and admit you need a Savior and repent of your sins, asking Christ to take over your life and live in you, you are moved from this present darkness to light. In simpler terms you not only understand with your mind what has happened to you, but your heart is circumcised, the old Spiritually cut away and the new heart that God puts in you begins its eternal life with Christ. We are

Spiritually transferred from darkness (evil) into the (light) Life Eternal with Christ.

August 18, 2024

Just as a reminder, Paul has been told that false teachers have come into the congregation at Colossi. He is writing to those in Colossi having never met them. His heart is broken and the word of their falling away from God's Truth. Paul started his letter by encouraging this home fellowship. He is in the process as we pick this up again of explaining the Preeminence of Christ our Lord and Savior.

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

Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

The Supremacy of Christ

(Hebrews 1:1-14)

Jesus was with God from the beginning in our timeline from when God through His Son Created the earth and the heavens. That is a starting point that is relevant to us, not to God or to Jesus or the Holy Spirit. Those three have existed for ever. God expresses

how much He loves us and gave His Son to us and for us in
Hebrews 1

*Hebrews 1: **1**God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, **2**Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; **3**Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; **4**Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.*

***5**For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?*

***6**And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.*

***7**And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.*

***8**But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.*

***9**Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.*

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

***11**They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment;*

12And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

13But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?

14Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

I am going to use a phrase “our time” a non-Biblical term due to the fact that “time” has no meaning in God’s eternal existence. He is eternal and has no need of time. Time, “our time” was created by God for a specific purpose and when that purpose is finished, we will have no need of “our time” ever again. God regulated “our time” by use of the sun and moon. He divided night and day by using those to elements of creation. That created “our TIME).

There was a moment in “our TIME” that God created the earth and the human race to live on it. There was a moment in “our TIME” that God through the Power of the Holy Spirit placed the seed of His Son in Mary, and she gave birth to God’s Son in human form.

The point is this, Jesus is fully God and fully man. He is the creator of all that exists in “our TIME”. He died and rose from the dead for us in “our TIME”, to allow us access through the forgiveness of our sins to live eternally with the Triune God, the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

15Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

I have read several attempts to describe “the firstborn of every creature.” None of them are satisfactory, it is like trying to describe the Trinity. Perhaps we are incapable of fully understanding this phrase, as we see dimly now but a time will come when we see clearly what God meant by that phrase.

Jesus as **fully human** began that existence on the day of His Birth. That was not when Jesus the Son of God began His existence as part of the Trinity, the God Head has no beginning and no ending They are eternal.

Jesus the Son of God, as a Human being, had a finite existence on earth, a beginning and an end in mortality; (a moment of birth and a moment of death) just like all humanity. So, to the point, “The first born of every creature:”. Jesus always existed so He predates all creatures, all creation, He created all creation and every creature like Himself, there was a first of every creature.

In the KJV Defender Study Bible by Henry Morris, makes this point. Jesus is eternal and is referred to as the doctrine of “eternal generation”.

“Jesus went from eternity to eternity in relation to the Father as a Son. Some are sons of God by creation (Angles Job 1:6), and we

became sons of God by adoption (Romans 8:14-15), but He is the Son by eternal generator or (eternal relation), the only-begotten of the Father. He also has the right of inheritance of the firstborn (Hebrews 1:2) and is “the first born of the dead” (Colossians 1:8)”

So, Jesus is the first born of creation in every aspect of created beings.

16For 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: 17And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

There are those in humanity that think they can create something new. Artificial Intelligence is the latest in this idea of thinking they can create something new. Many of the elites want eternal life without judgement so their aim is at what they call “singularity”. The combining of man and machine. Indestructible, eternal.

Man can rearrange atoms and redesign the way they fit together into something that has not existed in that format so, in a sense that new reorganized set of atoms is new but the atoms that they used are not new. Man cannot create anything new in the respect to its very foundation the atom. God designed and created every atom that exists in creation and man cannot create a single new one nor can he destroy one atom without God’s deciding to allow it.

We do not know what the Spiritual world is constructed of nor how it operates. We know that Jesus in His resurrected body defied many laws of world-based physics that this world is bound to. How Jesus does that we do not know, but we know He did many things that defied natural laws after His resurrection and some before His Crucifixion. It is His kingdom to do with as He pleases. He could move through solid walls, we already know He could walk on water, He could come back from being dead, we know He can command the entire Heavenly Army of angels, He can create entire worlds and universes by simply speaking them into existence. He can defeat His enemies by simply speaking their destruction.

18And 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.

Every time this word comes up, I feel compelled by God's Word to ensure we understand it. The Church (capital C), the real and only Church Jesus authored, is made up of only Believers.

Galatians 3: 26For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

And Jesus is the Head of that CHURCH-Big C. It is also referred to as the “Body of Christ” and is described by God as fitted together. The confusion comes when so many thousands of places call themselves “the church”. A single congregation is not “THE CHURCH”. There may be some members of “THE CHURCH (Capital C) in local congregations but those congregations do not constitute the Church (Capital C).

Ephesians 2: [19](#)Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; [20](#)And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; [21](#)In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: [22](#)In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

So, if you don't go to a local congregation can you still be a Believer and belong to The CHURCH? I believe so but under obedience we are told this:

Hebrews 10: [24](#)And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: [25](#)Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

A Believer that tries to go it on their own becomes a target for Satan. So, be careful and fellowship with other Believers on a

weekly basis. The Body of Christ needs you and you need the Body of Christ; THE CHURCH.

19For it pleased *the Father* that in him should all fulness dwell; 20And, 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.

There is no one greater than Jesus in all of creation. Whether in heaven or anywhere in the Universe including here on earth.

God declared in Romans:

Philippians 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

21And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled 22In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:

False teachers like those who infiltrated the congregation at Colossi come up with all types of doctrines that are not Biblical but are manmade.

Isaiah 29:13 Therefore the Lord said: "*These people draw near to Me with their mouths and honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me. Their worship of Me is but rules taught by men.*"

Matthew 15:9 They worship Me in vain; they teach as doctrine the precepts of men."

Christians are not immune to evil thoughts it is the flesh fighting to stay alive against the Spirit of God that lives in all Believers. To often a doctrine of men is brought in as being a Biblical Doctrine. The only way to know if it is True is examine against the whole Council of God.

August 25, 2024

I recently heard this and am still processing it. The difference between Temptation and Testing. God will never tempts a Believer.

James 1: 13Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: 14But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. 16Do not err, my beloved brethren. 17Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. 18Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

God does "test" Believers to help us grow in our walk with Him.

James 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, ; 3Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

The Greek word for “temptations” in the Greek according to Strong’s Concordance:

Transliteration: peirasmos

Phonetic Spelling: (pi-ras-mos')

Definition: an experiment, a trial, temptation

Usage: (a) trial, probation, testing, being tried, (b) temptation, (c) calamity, affliction.

Temptation comes from Satan through our flesh. Testing/trials comes from God through the Spirit that lives in us.

Below comes the essence of why Paul wrote this letter; it was due to false teaching and false teachers that had come into this local congregation in Colossae.

Paul lays out the challenge to them and to us:

23If 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;

During this time of the New Covenant there was little to read beyond the Law and the Prophets. Letters sent out by the Apostles were shared between the congregations in various

towns. It was mainly through preaching, the word of mouth that many heard the Good News. It was this preaching that Paul encouraged the Believers to cling to.

In our age we are blessed to have so much to read and study that those in the early church did not have. Don't waste time in not studying as you have opportunity.

Paul's Suffering for the Church

(2 Corinthians 11:16-33)

24Who 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:

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

Some translations use the word “stewardship” instead of “dispensation”. In this context Paul was given responsibility to bring the Good News to the Gentile world. There is however an entire series of study on “dispensationalism” a Biblical doctrine of God dividing His Work up over time.

Q. Has anyone studied the 7 Biblical Dispensations?

From KJV Strong's Concordance

[A "dispensation" can also refer to a special period of *time*(management). But this is a *secondary* (not primary) meaning of [3622](#)(*oikonomía*).]

I believe in studying the 7 dispensations of God opens up an understanding of not only how the Church (Big C) has grown it also depicts the manner in which each Believe has progressed in their relationship to God. Perhaps we'll do a few weeks study on it.

[26](#)Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

There are two veins here; the first is the knowledge of God. That knowledge and relationship had been centered on God's Chosen people Israel and hidden from the Gentile world. Even though Israel was supposed to be a light unto the world their repeated rejection of God, the Law and the Prophets which made Israel a target of Satan. Israel failed at the mission God had given them, but God still loves them, and they are still the apple of His Eye. But we know clearly that God punished Israel for their failings and sins.

However, through the Power of the Holy Spirit and the Apostles especially Paul, that knowledge and relationship is now going to be given to the Gentiles, not as a replacement of Israel but as a

revealing of the God of Israel to the gentile world through His Son, Jesus Christ.

The second vein is back to “Church dispensation”, the founding, the growth of the Body of Christ in mankind. It demands a literal interpretation of Scripture and is in my opinion the most well-founded method of study. The seven dispensations are:

1. Innocence
2. Conscience
3. Human Government
4. Promise
5. Law
6. Grace
7. Millennial Reign of Christ

As a note, the New Apostolic Revival (NAR) heresy that is sweeping across denominations, rejects dispensationalism and literal understanding of the Word of God. So, beware of this new false teaching (New Apostolic Reformation)

27To 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 “riches of the glory” is Christ. In Christ we have God, The Savior, The Holy Spirit, God’s Mercy and Grace which all led to our Salvation by the Blood of Christ. It is our inheritance, our riches in Glory. That is all through Jesus Christ.

28Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

The Church is “every man” meaning all BELIEVERS are presented as perfect in Christ. Not by anything we as Believers have done, our perfection comes solely at and by the Blood of Jesus Christ. When God looks at a Believer, He sees His Son.

29Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

Your mission if you chose to accept it is to take the Good News into all the world Baptizing in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Work not to Salvation but because you are Saved by the Blood of Christ we do it out of obedience to the One who Save us.

All verses are copied from <https://biblehub.com/> in King James