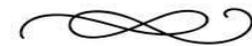


*The Book of  
Colossians  
Quiet Time Guide*



*February 22-March 19, 2021*

## Colossians

The author of this epistle is the apostle Paul as stated in verse 1. The Epistle to the Colossians is one of Paul's Prison Epistles, which are so called because they were written while he was in prison in Rome. The Prison Epistles include Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and the very personal Epistle to Philemon. The year was about A.D. 62.

The four Prison Epistles are companion epistles and together have been called the anatomy of Christianity, or the anatomy of the church. Colossians directs our attention to the head of the body who is Christ. The body itself is secondary. Christ is the theme. He is the center of the circle around which all Christian living revolves. Colossians emphasizes the totality or fullness of the Godhead which dwells in Christ.

The church at Colosse met in the home of Philemon. I doubt that there ever was a church building there. A great civilization and a great population were in that area. It was more or less a door to the Orient, to the East; it was called the gates of Phrygia. Here the East and the West met. Here is where the Roman Empire attempted to tame the East and to bring it under Roman subjugation. Colosse was a great fortress city, as were Laodicea, Philadelphia, Sardis, Thyatira, and Pergamum. All of these had been great cities of defense against invasion from the East.

By the time of Paul the people had lapsed into paganism and gross immorality. Colosse was typical of the great cities of that day. As far as the record is concerned, Paul never visited the city of Colosse. Even though Paul was never in the city of Colosse, he was the founder of the church there.

The Greek culture was strong in Asia Minor, the area known as Turkey today. It was in this area that Paul did his greatest work along with his co-workers. There were with him John Mark, Barnabas, Silas, Timothy, and apparently some of the other apostles. We know that the apostle John became the pastor at Ephesus later on. Asia Minor was a great cultural center. It was also a center for heathenism, paganism, and the mystery religions. One of these mystery religions was known as Gnosticism, the first heresy of the church. Gnostic doctrine taught that the world was created and ruled by a lesser divinity, the demiurge, and that Christ was an emissary of the remote supreme divine being, esoteric

knowledge (gnosis) of whom enabled the redemption of the human spirit.

Paul issues a warning in the first chapter: "Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature (perfect) in Christ." (Col. 1:28). Perfection is not to be found in any cult or any heresy, but in Christ Jesus. All wisdom is found in Him.

Christianity is Christ. This is what Paul teaches in this epistle: "For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. (Col. 2:9-10) In Christ dwells all of God (deity). All you need is to be found in Christ Jesus.

### Quiet Time Text

<u>Week 1</u>	<u>Scripture Reading</u>	<u>Week 3</u>	<u>Scripture Reading</u>
Feb 22	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 1:1-8	March 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 3:1-4
Feb 23	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 1:9-14	March 9	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 3:5-10
Feb 24	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 1:15-20	March 10	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 3:11-17
Feb 25	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 1:21-23	March 11	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 3:18-21
Feb 26	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 1:24-29	March 12	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 3:22-25
<u>Week 2</u>	<u>Scripture Reading</u>	<u>Week 4</u>	<u>Scripture Reading</u>
March 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 2:1-5	March 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 4:1-4
March 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 2:6-10	March 16	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 4:5-9
March 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 2:11-15	March 17	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 4:10-12
March 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 2:16-19	March 18	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 4:13-15
March 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 2:20-23	March 19	<input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 4:16-18