

THE EPISTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS

One of the **Captivity** epistles - see Ephesians chapter 6 verse 20, Philippians chapter 1 verse 7; Colossians chapter 4 verses 3, 18.

Written by Paul from Rome.

Colosse – a city in Phrygia (Asia Minor) near to Laodicia

CHAPTER 1

Christ experienced - verses 1-14.

By the preaching of the Gospel verse 6.

Seen in Faith, Love and Hope verses 4-5.

By the prayers of the apostles verses 8-12.

Looked for in their maturity.

Christ exalted – verses 15-20.

The wonder of God in Christ and Christ in God.

The place of pre-eminence is His - verse 18.

Christ enjoyed – verse 21-29.

In his work as Mediator - verses 20-23.

In suffering and service - verses 23-25.

In His indwelling - verses 26-29.

CHAPTER 2

Christ the wisdom of God – verses 3-5.

Subtle error creeping into the church.

(Note – beguile - verse 4; beware - verse 8; spoil - verse 8)

Christ, the secret of Christian living – verses 6-14.

Pictured in the spiritual application of-

Circumcision - verse 11; baptism - verse 12; resurrection - verse 13.

Christ, the victor in spiritual realms – verse 15.

The nature of the enemy; the nature of the fight and the nature of the victory.

Christ, the Head of the church – verse 19.

The body – permanently joined; livingly joined and growingly joined.

CHAPTER 3

Christ, our life – verses 1-8.

Shown in new ambitions; new affections and new appetites.

Christ, our unity – verses 9-14.

Shown by honesty - verse 9; by lack of barriers - verse 11; by love and humility - verse 12

Christ our rejoicing – verses 15-17.

Because of indwelling peace; the indwelling Word; indwelling grace; indwelling thanksgiving.

Christ, our Master – verses 18-25.

The practical application in home life - verses 18-21.

The practical application in business life - verses 22-25.

CHAPTER 4

Christ through us – verses 2-6.

Continual need for prayer – for ourselves, for others.

Christ in fellow workers – verses 7-18.

Their names recorded.

Their characters approved.

Their ministry appreciated.