

**Introduction to the Book of Colossians**

*Ancient City of Colossae* – east of Ephesus; in \_\_\_\_\_

- Historical notes:
- Church formed (Acts 19:10) – probably by Epaphras ~\_\_\_\_\_ A.D.
- Epistle written by Paul from \_\_\_\_\_ in ~\_\_\_\_\_ A.D.
- False teaching from Greco-Roman, oriental and \_\_\_\_\_ elements

**Jesus Christ is God’s \_\_\_\_\_ !**

Christ working _____ me		Christ working _____ me	
_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>of Christ</b>	<b>in Christ</b>	<b>in Christ</b>	<b>to Christ</b>
<b>(1:1-23)</b>	<b>(1:24-2:23)</b>	<b>(3:1-4:1)</b>	<b>(4:2-18)</b>

**Purpose:** Paul presents the \_\_\_\_\_ about Jesus Christ to believers *in and around Colossae* in order to:

- 1) Convince them that they are \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ (2:9-10)
- 2) Persuade them *from* following \_\_\_\_\_ (2:8)
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ the life of Christ *in* them (3:15-16)

***This is a book about...***

- Jesus Christ – His \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ against false teaching – especially about \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ and forgiveness
- Sanctification
- Right \_\_\_\_\_
- Right \_\_\_\_\_
- Relationships
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Paul and his \_\_\_\_\_

**The importance of \_\_\_\_\_** – what we believe about Jesus

***Application***

- Read \_\_\_\_\_ – note the names and titles of \_\_\_\_\_
- Read / memorize Col. 2:9-10

***Discussion Questions: Introduction to Colossians***

1. Can you recall / share one specific way God has used the book of Colossians to impact your life?
2. How might you respond to an unbeliever that you have tried to talk to about Jesus who says: *Well, I don't believe the Bible is true; so my view of Jesus is different from what you have described?*
3. How might you respond to someone who claims to be a Christian and who claims to have a *high view of the Bible*, but who says: *Jesus is all about love; He would never condemn anyone to hell.* It doesn't matter what religion a person is, if they love like Jesus loved, that's all that God expects.
4. What is *one thing* you definitely want to take away with you from today's message?

How do you plan to *follow through* on that *one thing*?