

COLOSSIANS

Horizontal Chart

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Theme: "The Supremacy and All Sufficiency of Jesus Christ"

Key Words: all, complete, faith, faithful, knowledge, mystery, through, on account of, wisdom

Key Verses: 1:9, 10,15-18; 2:2-10; 3:1,2,11-17,24; Paul's ministry vision "... that we may present everyone perfect (complete) in Christ" (1:28)

TEACHING - Knowing What to Do - Chapters 1&2	PRACTICE - Doing What You Know - Chapters 3&4
1. Greetings/Introduction (1:1-2)	1. The Believers' New Perspective (3:1-11)
2. Prayer of Thanksgiving for Believers in Colosse (1:3-14)	2. The Believers' Godly Behaviors (3:12-14)
A. For Their Faith in Christ (3-4a)	3. The Ruling Influence of Christ (3:15)
B. For Their Love for all Believers (4b)	4. Our Responsibility to One Another (3:16-17)
C. For Their Hope of Heaven (5a)	5. Family Fundamentals (3:18-21)
D. For Their Trust in the Gospel (5b-6)	6. Workplace Fundamentals (3:22-24)
E. For Their Openness to the Message '(7)	7. God will Deal with Wrongdoing (3:25)
F. For Their Love in the Spirit '(8)	8. Instructions for Employers (4:1)
G. For Their Growth in Christ (9-14)	9. Pray for Opportunities to Share Christ (4:2, 5-6)
3. The Truth about Jesus Christ (1:15-20)	10. Pray for Others who Share Christ (4:3,4)
4. The Truth about Believers in Christ (1:21-23)	11. Paul's Greeting Bearers Tychicus & Onesimus (4:7-8)
5. Paul's Labor of Love for the Church (1:24-29)	12. Paul's Other Companions in Ministry (4:9-14)
6. Paul's Compassion for Believers (2:1-5)	13. Paul's Closing Greetings (4:15-18)
7. Paul's Instruction for Believers (2:6-19)	
A. To Live in Christ (6-7)	
B. To not be Misled '(8)	
C. To Know all that Christ is '(9)	
D. To Know all that we are in Christ (10-12)	
E. God's Supernatural Work of Salvation (13-19)	
8. Living out your Freedom in Christ (2:20-23)	

Background: Written by Paul from prison in Rome in AD 60. One of four prison epistles (cf. Ephesians, Philippians, Philemon). Epaphras planted churches in Colossae, Laodicea and Hierapolis as a result of his conversion through Paul's ministry in Ephesus (cf 1:7-8; Ac 19:10).

Purpose: To address false teaching that elevated human wisdom above the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ (2:4,8) and to confirm the absolute supremacy of Jesus Christ (1:15-20) as the only One sufficient to meet all of our needs. Also to warn believers and establish them in the faith.