

OCTOBER 5, 2020

## Colossians

### Chapter 1:1-14

Paul Osteen, M.D.

**Author:** Paul during his first imprisonment in Rome.

**Date:** Somewhere between 60-62 A.D. +/- 27 years after Pentecost.

#### Colossae:

- 100 miles east of Ephesus in now modern-day Turkey.
- Paul had never visited.
- Probably an extension of Paul's ministry in Ephesus.
- Epaphras—who is mentioned in the letter—was a native of Colossae and probably the founder and pastor of the church. Epaphras went to Rome to report on the church and asked for Paul's advice.
- The church apparently met in Philemon's home (see Philemon 2). Onesimus was a part of the church there.

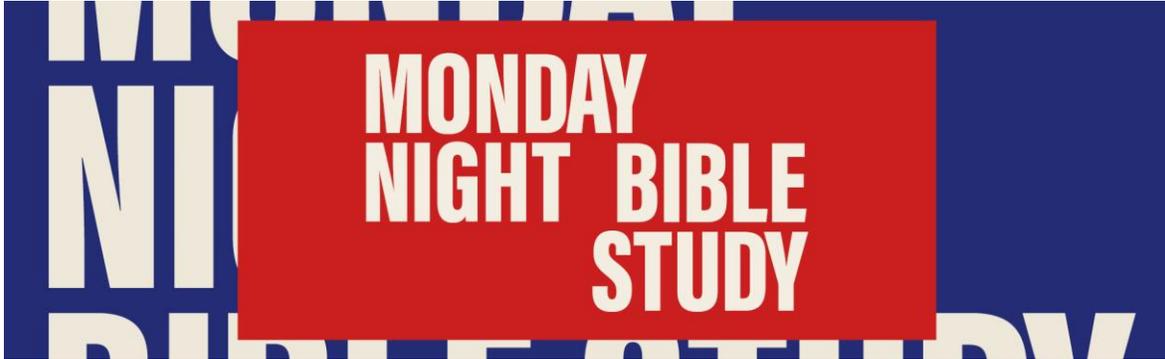
**Occasion:** Paul addresses the false teachings.

#### False Teachings:

- It was a doctrine of salvation, but it doubted the importance of Jesus.
- Jesus was not fully God and fully man but was one of the many ways that bridged the chasm between God and man.
- Jesus was relegated to a relatively minor place in the Colossian system of belief.
- Believers could achieve salvation through special knowledge, keeping certain rituals and rigorous self-discipline.
- It was a doctrine the MINIMIZED CHRIST.

#### Origin Of False Teachings:

- Jewish Legalism – Following Jewish rituals, observance of holy days. Colossians 2:16-17
- Paganism – Worship of angels as mediators between God and man. Colossians 2:18



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- Philosophical – Based on human ideas. Gave Jesus a place; but not the supreme place. Denied that Jesus was God. Denied the importance of Jesus in salvation. Colossians 2:8

**Theme:** This letter emphasizes the absolute supremacy of Jesus.

**How Paul Addresses The Church:**

- Holy.
- Brothers and Sisters. Colossians 3:11
- We have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all His people.
  - Philos – Brotherly love, friendship love—has to do with giving and receiving love.
  - Agape – Has to do with giving only; interested in the welfare of the other person over themselves. More than a 'feeling', it is an action—we demonstrate our love in a practical fashion. Agape love requires sacrifice for others without expecting anything in return. John 13:35, Galatians 5:6, I John 4:20-21
- Hope stored up for you in Heaven. Hebrews 6:19-20

**Paul's Prayer For The Colossian Believers:**

- God will fill you with knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding the Spirit gives...
- That you would live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way, bearing fruit in every good work... Ephesians 2:10
- Growing in the knowledge of God...
- Being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might... Ephesians 3:20
- So that you can have great endurance and patience...
  - Endurance – Capacity to see things through to the end. Ability to make it through difficult times.
  - Patience – Longsuffering, even-temperedness, that in spite of injury or insult, does not retaliate.
- Giving thanks to the Father Who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of His people. Romans 8:17
- Kingdom of Light. John 1:4-5

