

Colossians

Chapter 1

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the _____ of God, and Timothy our brother,

² To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ *who are in Colosse*:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.^[a]

³ We give _____ to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, ⁴ since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your _____ for all the saints; ⁵ because of the _____ which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the _____ of the gospel, ⁶ which has come to you, as *it has* also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit,^[b] as *it is* also among you since the day you heard and knew the _____ of God in truth; ⁷ as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful _____ of Christ on your behalf, ⁸ who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹ For this reason we also, since the _____ we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the _____ of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; ¹⁰ that you may _____ worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every _____ work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹ strengthened with all _____, according to His glorious _____, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; ¹² giving thanks to the Father who has _____ us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the _____ of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we have

redemption through His _____, ^[c] the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the _____ of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in _____ and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether _____ or dominions or principalities or _____. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. ¹⁸ And He is the _____ of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the _____, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

¹⁹ For it pleased *the Father* that in Him all the _____ should dwell,

²⁰ and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made _____ through the blood of His _____.

²¹ And you, who once were alienated and _____ in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled ²² in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above _____ in His sight— ²³ if indeed you continue in the _____, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the _____ of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a _____.

²⁴ I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His _____, which is the church,

²⁵ of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to _____ the word of God, ²⁶ the mystery which has been hidden from _____ and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. ²⁷ To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this _____ among the Gentiles: which ^[d] is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ Him we preach, _____ every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ To

this *end* I also _____, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

Chapter 2

2 For I want you to know what a _____ conflict I have for you and those in Laodicea, and *for* as many as have not seen my _____ in the flesh, ² that their _____ may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and *attaining* to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the _____ of God, both of the Father and^[e] of Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the _____ of wisdom and knowledge.

⁴ Now this I say lest anyone should _____ you with persuasive words.

⁵ For though I am _____ in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your *good* order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

⁶ As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, ⁷ rooted and built up in Him and _____ in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it^[f] with _____.

⁸ Beware lest anyone _____ you through philosophy and _____ deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the _____, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; ¹⁰ and you are _____ in Him, who is the head of all principality and _____.

¹¹ In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the _____^[g] of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² buried with Him in _____, in which you also were raised with Him through _____ in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

¹³ And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He

has made _____ together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,
¹⁴ having wiped out the _____ of requirements that was against
us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having
_____ it to the cross. ¹⁵ Having disarmed principalities and powers, He
made a _____ spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

¹⁶ So let no one judge you in _____ or in drink, or regarding a festival or a
new _____ or sabbaths, ¹⁷ which are a _____ of things to
come, but the _____ is of Christ. ¹⁸ Let no one cheat you of your reward,
taking delight in _____ humility and worship of _____,
intruding into those things which he has not ^[h] seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly
mind, ¹⁹ and not holding _____ to the Head, from whom all the body,
nourished and knit together by _____ and ligaments, grows with the
increase *that is* from God.

²⁰ Therefore, ^[i] if you died with Christ from the _____ principles of the
world, why, as *though* living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations—
²¹ “Do _____ touch, do _____ taste, do _____ handle,” ²² which all concern things
which perish with the using—according to the commandments and doctrines of
men? ²³ These things indeed have an appearance of _____ in self-imposed
religion, *false* humility, and _____ of the body, *but are* of no value against
the indulgence of the flesh.

Chapter 3

3 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are _____,
where Christ is, sitting at the _____ hand of God. ² Set your mind on things
_____, not on things on the earth. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with
Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ *who is* our _____ appears, then you also will

appear with Him in glory.

⁵ Therefore put to _____ your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these things the _____ of God is coming upon the _____ of disobedience, ⁷ in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

⁸ But now _____ yourselves are to put off all these: _____, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your _____. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the _____ man with his deeds, ¹⁰ and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the _____ of Him who created him, ¹¹ where there is neither _____ nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, _____ nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

¹² Therefore, as the _____ of God, holy and beloved, put on _____ mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also _____ do. ¹⁴ But above all these things put on love, which is the _____ of perfection. ¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your _____, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, _____ and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your _____ to the Lord. ¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or _____, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving _____ to God the Father through Him.

¹⁸ Wives, submit to your _____ husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not be _____ toward them.

²⁰ Children, obey your parents in _____ things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.

²¹ Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become _____.

²² Bondservants, obey in all things your _____ according to the flesh, not with _____, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God.

²³ And whatever you do, do it _____, as to the Lord and not to men,

²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the _____ of the inheritance; for^[j] you serve the Lord Christ. ²⁵ But he who does wrong will be _____ for what he has done, and there is no partiality.

Chapter 4

4 Masters, give your bondservants what is _____ and fair, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

² Continue earnestly in _____, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;

³ meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a _____ for the word, to speak the _____ of Christ, for which I am also in chains, ⁴ that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

⁵ Walk in wisdom toward those *who are* _____, redeeming the time.

⁶ Let your _____ always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

⁷ Tychicus, a beloved _____, faithful minister, and fellow servant in the Lord, will tell you all the _____ about me. ⁸ I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that he^[k] may know your circumstances and _____ your hearts, ⁹ with Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is *one of you*. They will make known to you _____ things which are *happening here*.

¹⁰ Aristarchus my fellow _____ greets you, with Mark the cousin of Barnabas (about whom you received instructions: if he comes to you, welcome him),

¹¹ and Jesus who is called Justus. These are my only _____ workers for the kingdom of God who are of the circumcision; they have proved to be a comfort to me.

¹² Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in _____, that you may stand perfect and complete^[l] in all the will of God. ¹³ For I bear him witness that he has a great _____^[m] for you, and those who are in Laodicea, and those in Hierapolis. ¹⁴ Luke the beloved _____ and Demas greet you. ¹⁵ Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea, and Nymphas and the church that is in his^[n] house.

¹⁶ Now when this _____ is read among you, see that it is read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and that you likewise read the *epistle* from Laodicea.

¹⁷ And say to Archippus, "Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may _____ it."

¹⁸ This salutation by my own hand—Paul. Remember my _____. *Grace be with you. Amen.*

Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.