

**THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS**  
**COLOSSIANS 1:3-8**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. The book of Colossians directs our attention to Christ emphasizing the prominence of Jesus in our lives. (Col. 1.18)
3. How can we build a good reputation. [Read Colossians 1.3-8]

**I. FAITH**

- A. **COLOSSIANS 1.3,4:** *“since we heard of your faith”*
1. “Your” Plural pronoun. All of you. (cf. v. 2)
  2. This was a congregation who had a reputation for having faith in Jesus. (Col. 1.23; 2.5,12)
- B. Are you known for your faith?
1. Faith consists of accepting the word of God as fact and obeying the word of God.
  2. Are we a congregation known for our faith? (Eph. 1.15)
  3. Are you an individual known for your faith? (Phile. 5)

**II. FEELINGS**

- A. **COLOSSIANS 1.4:** *“and of your love for all the saints”*
1. “Love” (agape): Desiring what is best for another.
  2. *“The saints”* Fellow Christians. (Col. 3.14; 1 Pet. 1.22)
  3. *“All the saints.”* Not just the ones we get along with.
- B. Are you known for your feelings for your brethren?
1. The Samaritan showed love by his actions. (Luke 10.36)
  2. 1 Corinthians 13 defines love by what it does and refuses to do. (1 Cor. 13.4-8)

**III. FUTURE**

- A. **COLOSSIANS 1.5:** *“because of the hope”*
1. Hope is desiring and expecting something that is still in the future. (Prov. 10.28; 13.12)
  2. *“For you.”* Hope was exclusive. (Col. 1.4)
  3. *“In the gospel”* The gospel is a message of hope.
- B. Are you known for believing in your future in heaven?
1. Even in hard times, we have reason to hope. (Eph. 1.3)
  2. Evangelism is to be centered on hope. (Acts 26.6)  
*church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead”*

**CONCLUSION:** Change your life and change your reputation.

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*“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”*  
-Mark 16.15

**April 10, 2022**

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**MEETING TIMES:**

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM**  
**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM**  
**SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM**  
**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM**

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## JESUS, OUR BEST FRIEND

WE HAVE A SPECIAL and unique relationship with Christ. The Bible described our relationship with Jesus in a variety of ways.

First of all, Jesus is our High Priest (Heb. 4.15). In the Old Testament, the High Priest would go into the Holiest of All once a year on the day of atonement. There he would offer sacrifices on behalf of the people. The High Priest went into the very presence of God and served as intercessor between God and man. In the same way, Christ is our intercessor (Heb. 7.25). He offered Himself as a sacrifice on the cross of Calvary and now serves as our High Priest always making intercessions for us.

Secondly, Jesus is our teacher and example (1 Pet. 2.21). You and I are going to have troubles in life. Temptation, persecution, and hardship are a part of every Christian’s life. As my teacher and example, I can learn how best to handle my troubles by learning from Jesus and following His example.

Third, Jesus is my brother (Phil. 2.6-8). Jesus came in the flesh. He dwelt among us. He learned obedience by coming to this earth physically in flesh and blood and experiencing what it means to live like you and I.

As our High Priest, our teacher, example, and our brother, Jesus is our dearest of friends (John 15.13-15). CLP

## JESUS, OUR BROTHER

### HEBREWS 2:11

#### INTRODUCTION:

- How do you know that Jesus loves you?
  - Is it because He came to live as a man? (2 Cor. 8.9)
  - Is it because He died for our sins? (Gal. 2.20)
  - Jesus loves us as proven by His becoming our Brother.
- The church is a spiritual family. (Matt. 12.50; Gal. 4.26)
- In all the Bible, it is hard to find a good older brother. (1 John 3.12; Gen. 27.41; 37.4,5,2 Sam. 13.22)
- Jesus is a brother who loves us. (Heb. 2.5-11).

#### I. SHAME

- HEBREWS 2.11:** *“He is not ashamed to call them brethren”*
  - HEBREWS 2.11:** We are *“all of one.”* The same source.
  - God is not ashamed of His faithful. (Heb. 11.16)
- There are those in our family of whom we are ashamed and of whom we are proud. How does Jesus feel about you?

#### II. SING

- HEBREWS 2.12:** *“I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.”*
  - What does the voice of Jesus sound like?
  - What does Jesus sing? (Heb. 2.12)
  - Why does Jesus sing? (Heb. 2.13)
- As we worship God, Jesus is among us singing with us!

#### III. SHARE

- HEBREWS 2.14:** *“He Himself likewise shared”*
  - Shared (metecho): Literally, “fellowship, participation”
  - Jesus participated in being *“flesh and blood”* (v. 14)
  - Why? *“that through death, He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is the devil.”* (Heb. 2.14)
  - Because of His participation and death, we do not need to fear death. (Heb. 2.15)
- Jesus also shares with us today. (Heb. 5.7)

#### IV. SUFFER

- HEBREWS 2.16,17:** *“For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.”*
  - Jesus helps His brethren. (Heb. 2.16)
  - To help us, Jesus became human. (Heb. 2.17)
- Having suffered, Jesus is able to help us today. (Heb. 2.18)

**CONCLUSION:** With Jesus as our Brother, we are hard to beat.

## WHY HAS GOD FORSAKEN YOU?

Does it seem like God has forsaken you? Have you prayed to God, and it seemed like it was an act of futility? Have you begged God for help during times of distress, and that help never came? He promised, *“I will never leave you nor forsake you”* (Heb. 13.5). Yet it seems that God exactly did that. What do you do when it seems like God has forsaken you? Perhaps the example of Jesus can give us some insight.

Psalms 22 is a messianic psalm concerning Jesus. In the verse, the psalmist wrote, *“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?”* The psalmist felt forsaken. It seemed as if he cried out to God for help, and God would not help him. After praying to God in Gethsemane pleading for His life, Jesus hung on the cross feeling abandoned by His Father. In Matthew 27.46, Jesus quoted Psalm 22.1 as if to say, “I feel the same way that the psalmist felt.”

Jesus wasn't the only One who felt that God has forsaken Him. The chief priests also saw Jesus as forsaken by God as they mocked, *“He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God’”* (Matt. 27.43). In keeping with messianic prophecy, the Jews of Jesus' day “esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted” (Isa 53.4). They believed that God not only had forsaken Him but was punishing Him.

It is believed by some that God had forsaken His Son, because the sins of mankind were placed on Jesus (Isa 53.6; 1 Pet. 2.24). It is suggested that because Jesus took on the sins of mankind and God cannot have anything to do with sin, He had no choice but to turn His back on His Son. But is that true?

If you keep reading Psalm 22, you come down to verse 21 where the psalmist says, “You have answered me.” Then in verse 24, he writes, *“For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; Nor has He hidden His face from Him; But when He cried to Him, He heard.”* Jesus felt forsaken. The Jews thought God forsook Him. But though it felt that way, God had forsaken Jesus, God heard Him (Heb. 5.7), and God did not hide His face from Him.

Sometimes it feels like God has abandoned us. It seems like He is ignoring our prayers. We cry out to God as David did, *“How long, O LORD? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me?”* (Ps. 13.1). But you need to know that God has not forsaken you. He is still in control. Jesus Himself asked, “Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God” (Luke 12.6; cf. Matt. 10.29). The more we feel forsaken, the more we need to trust in the God who will never leave us (1 Cor. 1.9,10). CLP