

THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS

COLOSSIANS 1:1,2

INTRODUCTION:

1. Are you excited about the gospel?
 - a) Paul was excited to preach. (Rom. 1.15)
 - b) Brethren were excited to hear. (Acts 17.11; 10.33)
2. We are excited to begin a new series on the book of Colossians!

I. WHO WROTE THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS?

- A. **COLOSSIANS 1.1:** *“Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ.”*
- B. Three times we are told that the apostle Paul wrote the book.
 1. **COLOSSIANS 1.23:** *“I, Paul, became a minister.”*
 2. **COLOSSIANS 4.18:** *“This salutation by my own hand— Paul. Remember my chains. Grace be with you. Amen.”*

II. TO WHOM WAS COLOSSIANS WRITTEN?

- A. **COLOSSIANS 1.2:** *“To the saints and faithful brethren”*
 1. Saint (hagios): The holy ones, separated ones.
 2. Faithful: These were brethren who faithful to God.
- B. **COLOSSIANS 1.2:** *“who are in Colosse.”*
 1. Colosse was city in the Roman province of Asia located in the Lycos Valley known today as Turkey.
 2. Colosse was one of three cities close together. (Col. 4.13)

III. WHY WAS THE COLOSSIANS WRITTEN?

- A. Paul was addressing the “Colossian Heresy”
 1. **COLOSSIANS 2.8:** *“Beware lest anyone cheat you.”*
 2. **COLOSSIANS 2.16:** *“So let no one judge you.”*
- B. To combat the false doctrines brought in by both Jews and Gentiles, Paul emphasized faith in Jesus.
 1. Jesus is referenced 81 times out of 95 verses!
 2. Jesus: Literally, the Savior. (Matt. 1.21)
 3. Christ: OT equivalent of the Messiah. (John 1.41)
- C. **COLOSSIANS 1.18:** *“And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead”*

CONCLUSION: The message of Colossians is a message for today. Our life is be centered around Jesus. (Col. 3.4)

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST **MARCH 13, 2022**
2424 McCARRAN ST.
NORTH LAS VEGAS, NV 89031
(702) 642-3141 **WWW.NLVCHURCHOFCHRIST.COM**

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

2424 McCarran St. ☐ North Las Vegas, NV ☐ 89030
Phone: (702) 642-3141 Email: Pruitt@nlvchurchofchrist.com
Be sure to watch us live at www.nlvchurchofchrist.com
Facebook: Chris Pruitt

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

March 13, 2022

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

“LORD, LORD”

The world is filled with those who are religious. There are more than 250 different kinds of churches in this country. Each one claims to believe in Jesus. Yet Jesus says that *“not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven”* (Matt. 7.21).

Jesus tells us that God desires worship that is *“in spirit and in truth.”* This is the way *“true worshippers will worship the Father”* (John 4.23,24). The implication is that there are some who worship God but do so falsely. James says that those who are religious but are not obedient to God in reference to how they speak, *“this one’s religion is useless”* (James 1.26). The Jews who gathered on Pentecost were *“devout men”* (Acts 2.5), but they were lost (Acts 2.40). Being religious does not mean being right.

Who are those who claim to be religious, but are not right with God? Some will speak the words of God (Matt. 7.22). Some will help the troubled (Matt. 7.21). Some will have a life filled with doing good things (Matt. 7.22). Yet they have not done the very things that God commands that His people do. Therefore, Jesus promised that on the day of Judgment, He will say to them, *“I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness”* (Matt. 7.23).

Those who are right with God are those who hear and obey the word of God. *“Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls”* (James 1.21).
CLP

GOD WILL DELIVER YOU

DANIEL 6:22

INTRODUCTION:

1. The largest living cat is named Hercules living on a wildlife reserve in North Carolina and weighs 922 pounds.
2. The Medo-Persian empire has come into power. (Dan. 5.30,31)
3. From this account, we can learn to trust in God to deliver us.

I. GOD DELIVERED DANIEL FROM THE LIONS

- A. The promotion of Daniel.
 1. **DANIEL 6:1:** *“one hundred and twenty satraps”*
 2. **DANIEL 6.2:** *“over these, three governors, of whom Daniel was one”*
- B. The pride of the governors.
 1. **DANIEL 6.3:** *“Then this Daniel distinguished himself”*
 2. **DANIEL 6.4:** *“So the governors and satraps sought to find some charge against Daniel”*
- C. The plot to assassinate Daniel.
 1. **DANIEL 6.5-8:** *“We shall not find any charge...unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God.”*
 2. **DANIEL 6.9:** *“King Darius signed the written decree.”*
- D. The punishment of Daniel in the lion’s den.
 1. **DANIEL 6.10:** *“prayed and gave thanks before his God”*
 2. **DANIEL 6.11-13:** *“makes his petition three times a day.”*
 3. **DANIEL 6.14-17:** *“cast him into the den of lions.”*
- E. The preservation of Daniel.
 1. **DANIEL 6.18-24:** *“has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?”*
 2. **DANIEL 6.25-28:** *“men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God”*

II. GOD WILL DELIVER US FROM THE LIONS

- A. Life is full of lions.
 1. Life is not always fair. (Matt. 21.9)
 2. Happiness can be ruined by pride. (Acts 17.4,5)
 3. Life is not always full of hope. (Dan. 6.16,17)
- B. We need to always have faith.
 1. Believe in the power of prayer. (Phil. 4.6,7)
 2. Believe in your innocence. (Dan. 6.22; Job 33.9)
 3. Believe in God’s care. (Dan. 6.22; 1 Pet. 5.7)

CONCLUSION: God is always in control.

LEARNING HOW TO BUILD: FUNCTION

Every building is built with a purpose in mind. Some buildings are designed as homes. The floor plan, the different rooms that are included such as a kitchen, living room, bedrooms, are all designed for the purpose of living. Some buildings are designed for commercial purposes. They are laid out to facilitate holding products. Sections are set up for checking out. Some buildings are designed for business with various offices. Google recently designed their workplace to be completely open without offices to facilitate the open exchange of ideas.

What is the function of the church? Jesus built the church. But for what purpose? Our purpose is not social. We were not designed to be a structure to facilitate social activities. Therefore, we have no kitchens and no fellowship halls. Our purpose is not recreational. Thus, we have no gyms, no basketball courts, and no bowling teams. The church was built and designed by Jesus to be spiritual.

The apostle Peter wrote about the church as a building with a purpose. In 1 Peter 2, he tells us that *“you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ”* (1 Pet. 2.5 w/v. 9). We are a house designed to worship. Our function is to offer spiritual sacrifices to God. Those spiritual sacrifices are specified in Hebrews 13.15 where we are told to *“continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.”* We give praise to God when we sing and pray. In doing so, we are functioning the way we were designed.

The church is also designed to function as a support group. In a similar metaphor, the apostle Paul likens the church to a body. We can sum up the entire chapter by saying that every part of the body is important and necessary for the body as a whole to function. The hands support the work of the feet. The eyes support the work of the ears. With our need to connect and mutually support one another in mind, the writer then makes this point: *“And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it”* (1 Cor. 12.26). If we are encouraging and supporting one another, we are functioning the way we were designed.

In reference to the church, Paul writes that *“you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit”* (Eph. 2.22). We are to do the work God as designated for us (2 Tim. 3.16,17). When we do, we will be the church that we are designed to be, and it will be a house that will serve as the dwelling place for God. Are you active and involved in the work of the church giving praise to God and supporting your brethren?

CLP