
BOOK OVERVIEW

Colossians

Author: the Apostle Paul

Date: A.D. 62 (probably while Paul was a prisoner in Rome)

Recipients: “the saints and faithful brethren in Christ Jesus which are at Colosse” (Colossians 1:2)

Summary: the supremacy of Jesus Christ

Key verses: Colossians 1:18; 2:10

Key words: head (3 times)

Notes:

There is no record in the book of Acts of Paul visiting Colosse. Apparently, the church was started by Paul’s fellowworker Epaphras, probably while Paul was in Ephesus on his third missionary journey.

This was the hometown of Philemon. Colossians 4:9 tells of Onesimus, his run-away slave, who Paul is returning to him.

Colosse was a large city on the Lycus River in Phrygia, an area in what we now call Asia Minor. It was located about 100 miles east of Ephesus and about 11 miles east of Laodicea.

In this letter Paul confronts errors that were creeping into the church in the area around Colosse (taboos about food, confusion about holy days, devotion to angelic beings, and early Gnostic heresies) by proclaiming the supremacy of Christ.

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