

Study of Colossians

A Doctrinal Statement of the Deity and Supremacy of Jesus Christ

Developed by Home Based Biblical Fellowship www.thbbf.org
 Join us live via Zoom Tuesday evenings 6:20-7:30 Central
 Email annette.bodi@outlook.com for meeting login

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COLOSSIANS				
	Christ Is Our Lord		... Our Life	... Our Love
	Lord of creation	Lord of our walk	Our mind	Love for "outsiders"
	Lord of the church	Lord of our salvation	Our body	Love for believers
	Lord of ministry	Lord of our growth	Our attitude	
			Our actions	
	CHAPTER 1	CHAPTER 2	CHAPTER 3	CHAPTER 4
Subject	Instruction	Warnings	Exhortations	Reminders
Christ	His person and work		His peace and presence	
Emphasis	Doctrinal and corrective		Practical and reassuring	
Theme	Christ is our supreme Lord and sufficient Savior.			
Key Verses	2:9-10			
Christ in Colossians	Jesus is the supreme Lord of the church and the world, the all-sufficient Savior in whom the fullness of Deity dwells (1:13-20; 2:9).			

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Colossians

- Author - Paul
- Recipients - The Church in Colossae
- Purpose – Warnings & Declaration
- Theme – The deity and supremacy of Jesus Christ

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Outline of Book

- Doctrine – Christ's preeminence declared – Chapter 1
 - In the Gospel message 1:1-12
 - In redemption 1:13-14
 - In creation 1:15-17
 - In the church 1:18-29
- Danger – Christ's preeminence defended – Chapter 2
 - Beware of empty philosophies 2:1-10
 - Beware of religious legalism 2:11-17
 - Beware of man-made disciplines 2:8-23
- Duty – Christ's preeminence demonstrated – Chapters 3-4
 - In personal purity 3:1-11
 - In Christian fellowship 3:12-17
 - In the home 3:18-21
 - In daily work 3:22-4:1
 - In Christian witness 4:2-6
- Final Greetings

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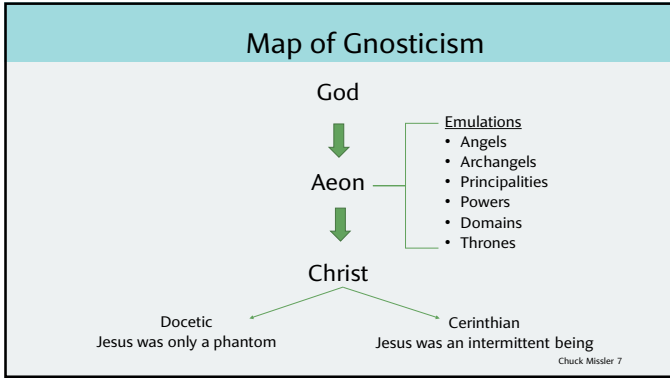
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False Doctrines Being Taught

- Legalism by the Jews – Jesus + following laws of the Tora
- Gnosticism by the Gnostics – Secret knowledge that takes you higher and further than Jesus
- Asceticism by the extremists – Jesus + extreme torture and discomfort of your human body

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Age of Syncretism

- These false teachings were a combination of many things: Jewish legalism, Oriental philosophies, pagan astrology, mysticism, asceticism, and a touch of Christianity
- There was “something for everybody” – an attempt to harmonize and unite many different schools of thought into a composite religion
- Teachers claimed that they were not denying the Christian faith but were only lifting it to a “higher level”
- These heresies continue today

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Characteristics of Gnosticism

- Jewish – stressing the need for observing OT laws and ceremonies
- Philosophical – emphasis on some special or deeper knowledge (gnosis)
- It involved the worship of angels as mediators to God (Col 2:18)
- It was exclusive, stressing the special privilege and “perfection” of those select few who belonged to this philosophical elite
- Denied the deity of Christ resulting in one of the greatest declaration of Christ’s deity found anywhere in Scripture (Col 1:15-16, 2:9)

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Characteristics of Gnosticism – cont.

- Came to the false conclusion that matter was evil; that a powerful spirit world used material things to attack mankind
- Held to a form astrology believing that angelic beings associated with heavenly bodies and influenced the affairs on earth (Col 1:16, 2:20-15)
- Added to these Eastern speculations was a form of Jewish legalism
 - The rite of circumcision was helpful in spiritual development
 - The OT dietary laws were also helpful in attaining spiritual perfection
- Good and evil were derived from rules and regulations (Col 2:21)

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Characteristics of Asceticism

- Matter is evil, but the human body is not
- Our fallen human nature wants to control the body and use it for sin; the body itself is not evil or Jesus would never have come to earth in a human body
- Diets and disciplines were good for developing true spirituality

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Nothing New in “New Age”

- When we make Jesus Christ and the Bible only a part of a total religious system or philosophy, we cease to give Him preeminence
- When we strive for “spiritual perfection” or “fullness” by means of formulas, disciplines, or rituals, we go backward rather than forward
- We must beware of mixing our Christian faith with such alluring things as yoga, transcendental meditation, Oriental mysticism, and the like
- We must beware of the “deeper life” teachers who offer a system for victory and fullness that bypasses devotion to Jesus Christ

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What Paul Covered

- Angels and spirit powers and there being no need to worry about angelic mediators or spiritual emanations
- God sent His Son to die for us – every person who believes on Jesus Christ is saved and is a part of His body, the church, of which He is the Head (Col 1:18)
- Nothing needs to be added to our relationship with Him – each believer is complete in Him. He is totally sufficient

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What Jesus Did

- He settled the sin question (Col 1:20)
- He defeated all satanic forces on the cross (Col 2:15)
- He put an end to the legal demands of the law (Col 2:14-17)
- He alone is the Preeminent one and is completely sufficient (Col 1:18, 3:11)

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Thank you



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