



The Preeminence of Christ

Colossians



# **Intro to Colossians**

1. Intro to the NT Books

2. Intro to Colossians

3. The Problem in Colossae

4. The case for the Preeminence of Christ

# **1. Intro to the NT Books**

# THE BIBLE AT A GLANCE

(66 books)

## OLD TESTAMENT

(39 books)

## NEW TESTAMENT

(27 books)

### HISTORY

(17 books)

### POETRY

(5 books)

### PROPHECY

(17 books)

### HISTORY

(5 books)

### LETTERS

(21 books)

### PROPHECY

(1 books)

#### The Law

- 1 Genesis
- 2 Exodus
- 3 Leviticus
- 4 Numbers
- 5 Deuteronomy

#### Major Prophets

- 1 Isaiah
- 2 Jeremiah
- 3 Lamentations
- 4 Ezekiel
- 5 Daniel

#### Gospels

- 1 Matthew
- 2 Mark
- 3 Luke
- 4 John

#### Paul's Letters

- 1 Romans
- 2 1 Corinthians
- 3 2 Corinthians
- 4 Galatians
- 5 Ephesians
- 6 Philippians
- 7 Colossians
- 8 1 Thessalonians
- 9 2 Thessalonians
- 10 1 Timothy
- 11 2 Timothy
- 12 Titus
- 13 Philemon

Revelation

#### History and Governments

- 1 Joshua
- 2 Judges
- 3 Ruth
- 4 1 Samuel
- 5 2 Samuel
- 6 1 Kings
- 7 2 Kings
- 8 1 Chronicles
- 9 2 Chronicles
- 10 Ezra
- 11 Nehemiah
- 12 Esther

#### Minor Prophets

- 1 Hosea
- 2 Joel
- 3 Amos
- 4 Obadiah
- 5 Jonah
- 6 Micah
- 7 Nahum
- 8 Habakkuk
- 9 Zephaniah
- 10 Haggai
- 11 Zechariah
- 12 Malachi

#### History of the early church

Acts

About  
400 years  
between  
Testaments

#### General Letters

- 1 Hebrews
- 2 James
- 3 1 Peter
- 4 2 Peter
- 5 1 John
- 6 2 John
- 7 3 John
- 8 Jude

The New is in the Old, concealed.  
The Old is in the New, revealed.

God used 40 different men over a period of 1,500 years (about 1400 B.C. to A.D. 90) in writing the Bible—2 Peter 1:20–21

# New Testament

1. Romans
2. 1st Corinthians
3. 2nd Corinthians
4. Galatians
5. Ephesians
6. Philippians
7. Colossians
8. 1st Thessalonians
9. 2nd Thessalonians
10. 1st Timothy
11. 2nd Timothy
12. Titus
13. Philemon

# Chronological Sequence

- **Galatians** (AD 48, after 1st Missionary Journey)
- **1 & 2 Thessalonians** (AD 52, after 2nd Missionary Journey)
- **1 & 2 Corinthians** (AD 52-56, during the 3rd Missionary Journey)
- **Romans** (AD 52-56, during the 3rd Missionary Journey)
  
- **Colossians** (AD 60-62, during 1st Roman Imprisonment)
- **Philemon** (AD 60-62, during 1st Roman Imprisonment)
- **Ephesians** (AD 60-62, during 1st Roman Imprisonment)
- **Philippians** (AD 60-62, during 1st Roman Imprisonment)
  
- **1 Timothy** (AD 63, Released from Prison)
- **Titus** (AD 63, Released from Prison)
- **2 Timothy** (AD 65-66, 2nd Roman Imprisonment and Execution)

## 2. Intro to Colossians (2/4)

**Author** : Paul the Apostle

**Audience** : Believers at Colossae and Laodicea and Hierapolis

**Church planted by** : Epaphras

# Colossae



- ✓ Province of Phrygia
- ✓ 100 miles east of Ephesus
- ✓ On the Lycus River
  
- ✓ Thriving city in 5<sup>th</sup> Century BC
- ✓ Known for Black wool and dyes
- ✓ Important hub for business
- ✓ Declined in importance by Paul's day
  
- ✓ Gentiles and Jewish population

# 3. The Problem in Colossae (3/4)

- ✓ Gnosticism
- ✓ Pagan Philosophy and Jewish Legalism
  - ✓ Greek Philosophy
  - ✓ Syncretism
  - ✓ Jewish Legalism
  - ✓ Oriental Mysticism
  - ✓ Low view of the Body



# **4. The Case for the Preeminence of Christ**

Outline of Colossians :

1. Sufficiency of Christ (1-2)
2. Submission to Christ (3-4)