

## Understanding Paul's Letter to Colossians

Col. 2:6,7 (p.1252)

Intro

Continue to \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord, giving thanks to God!

### I. As you \_\_\_\_\_ Christ Jesus the Lord....

***Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him...v.6***

The Book of Colossians is known for its exalted \_\_\_\_\_; it has a highly \_\_\_\_\_ view of the nature and work of Jesus Christ.

The Book of Colossians brings \_\_\_\_\_ many different strands of teaching from throughout the \_\_\_\_\_ Bible regarding Jesus.

***He [Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church.... (1:15-18)***

**Genesis:** The God of Creation and of the Bible is Worthy of our Faith and our Worship.

Jesus is the perfect man—the perfect reflection of Who \_\_\_\_\_ is-- sent to rule over all creation, which He \_\_\_\_\_; He is God incarnate Whom we must \_\_\_\_\_.

**Exodus:** The Lord Meets His People Where We Are and Gloriously Delivers Us, But We Must Follow Him.

**Leviticus:** God is Holy and Calls Us to Be Holy: As the People of a Holy God, the Lord will Bless our Faithfulness and Discipline our Disobedience, But He will Never Forsake Us.

**Numbers:** God's People Journey through the Wilderness of this Life, Getting Ever Closer to the Promised Land.

**Deuteronomy:** The Lord Promised to Raise up Another Prophet like Moses who would Intercede for Us.

Jesus is sent to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Church and of the whole new creation, \_\_\_\_\_ us to the Father through His death!

***And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. (1:18-20)***

**Joshua:** Be Brave and Strong to do All that God has Commanded you and Be Careful to Love the Lord your God.

**Judges:** We Need a King who will Lead us in Doing what is Right.

**Ruth:** Even the Hearts of the People of God are Prone to Wander, so We Need a Redeemer; Return to the Lord, and He will Bring Good out of it.

The Old Testament prepares us for the kind of \_\_\_\_\_ we need Jesus to be, and it encourages us to \_\_\_\_\_ Him and to obey.

**1 Samuel:** While We Look at the Outside, God Looks at the Heart; We Need a Man Anointed by God's Spirit.

**2 Samuel:** God Made a Special Covenant with David and his descendants to Rule over the People of Israel Forever.

**1 Kings:** The Lord always Keeps His Promises, and He Hears the Prayers of His People.

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**1 Chronicles:** Jesus Christ our Godly King, now Risen from the Dead, Leads us in Joyful Worship.

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**Ezra:** The Lord is Building His kingdom Right Now, in the Midst of this World Today; Therefore, We Need to Rise up and Build.

**Nehemiah:** As the People of God, Sometimes We Can Be Our Own Worst Enemies; We Must Work Together to Build the Kingdom of God and to Overcome Evil with Good.

**Esther:** The World is Fallen and Broken, But God is Building His Kingdom, Therefore We Must Trust and Obey.

***Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him...v.6***

**II. So \_\_\_\_\_ in him.**

We continue the Christian life the same way we started—that is, by \_\_\_\_\_; we don't \_\_\_\_\_ Christ, we grow more and more in Christ.

**Job:** Suffering Tests Our Faith, Even as it Exposes Our Lack of Understanding.

**Psalms:** It is a Great Blessing to Be Forgiven, and it is a Reason to Sing!

**Proverbs:** You Need Help Navigating Your Way Through Life; Trust the Lord in Every Way, and He will Guide You.

***...as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith... v.6,7***

The whole Bible is all about Jesus because the whole Christian \_\_\_\_\_ is about Jesus and learning to trust and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.

**Ecclesiastes:** The Bottom Line: You Need to Fear God and Keep His Commandments, Because God will Bring Every Deed into Judgment.

**Song of Solomon:** Romantic Love is a Beautiful but Powerful Emotion that Should Not Be Awakened Until its Proper Time.

**Isaiah:** The Gospel is an Almost Unbelievable Message: that God's Servant would Suffer to Save Us!

**Jeremiah:** In the Time of Jeremiah, the Lord Promised to Make a New Covenant that He will Enable You to Keep.

**Lamentations:** The Lord Invites and Encourages You to Acknowledge and to Express Your Sorrow, Grief, and Disappointment, Even While You Remind Yourself of God's Love and Faithfulness.

**Ezekiel:** The Lord Has Promised to Display His Holiness to the World Through His People by Cleansing Us and Changing Us.

Beware of any \_\_\_\_\_ that's going to take your eyes off of Jesus; Christian growth comes to us \_\_\_\_\_ God through Jesus Christ.

***...as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught.... v.6,7***

*See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition... let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink... These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels... and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God... seek the things that are above, where Christ is... (2:8,16-18; 3:1))*

While the Bible addresses all sorts of issues, Paul presents us with a radically \_\_\_\_\_-centered approach to the Christian life and to Christian \_\_\_\_\_.

**Daniel:** God Rules Over the Kingdoms of This World and is Building His Kingdom that will Last Forever.

**Hosea:** Come, Let Us Return to the Lord, and He Will Raise Us Up.

**Joel:** Disasters and Calamities in This Life are Actually a Foretaste of the Judgment That is to Come, But God Will Pour Out His Spirit on Those Who Turn to Him and Call on His Name.

**Amos:** Sometimes We Don't Want to Hear What God's Word Has to Say, But We Must Listen and Obey.

**Obadiah:** In the Book of Obadiah, the People of Edom Embody the Pride and the Hostility of the World, but the Lord Promises Judgment on Edom and the Spread of God's Kingdom.

**Jonah:** Deep-seated, Undiagnosed Anger can Drive Our Behavior, Resulting in Disobedience, Pettiness, and Not Reflecting the Lord's Compassion in Our Lives.

**Micah:** The Book of Micah Prophesies Judgment Upon God's People for Their Injustice Until the Coming of the King from Bethlehem.

**Nahum:** God's Judgment Upon Evil Actually Means Peace for God's People.

**Habakkuk:** As the People of God, We are Sometimes Vexed by God's Dealings, But We Must Live By Faith.

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*Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.... let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.... Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.... whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus.... Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord.... You are serving the Lord Christ. (3:9-11,15-17,23,24)*

Don't \_\_\_\_\_ what you've been taught: Put your faith into practice, \_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus, trusting Jesus, growing in Jesus, and giving \_\_\_\_\_ to God!

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**Matthew:** All authority has been given to Jesus, and He sends us out to make disciples.

**Mark:** Hear the news about Jesus, that He is risen!

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***...abounding in thanksgiving v. 7***

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