

THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS.

THE INTRODUCTION. Salutation. vs.1-2.

1. THE WRITER. vs.1. Paul the Apostle.

The Person--Paul

The office--Apostle.

The grace---By the will of God.

2. THE WRITER'S COLLEAGUES. vs.1--Timothy.

The Person----Timothy.

The relation--Our Brother.

3. THE ONES ADDRESSED. vs. 2--Saints.

The Persons-----Saints.

Their character-"Faithful"

Their relation--"Brethren in Christ"

Their abode-----Colosse.

4. THE BENEDICTION. vs.2.

God in manifestation....."Grace"

The fruits of grace....."Peace"

The source of grace....."God"

The bringer of grace....."Lord Jesus Christ"

The relation through grace."Father."

INTRODUCTION. vs.3-8.

1. THE APOSTOLIC ATTITUDE. vs.3

Giving thanks to the Father. 3
Praying for all the believers. 3.

2. THE CHURCH'S ATTITUDE. vs.4.

They had faith in Lord Jesus. 4
They had love to all saints. 4 These two things do not always go together.
They had hope laid up in heaven. 5
The Gospel gave the record of it. 5

3. THE GOSPEL AND ITS TRIUMPHS.

It was the word of truth. 5
It had come to them in Col. as it had in "All the world." 6
It bore fruit and increased 6, "as it doth in you also."
These two phrases, would seem to be set over against each other:
"In all the world"----"In you also."
It revealed the grace of God in truth. 6.
(N.B. "Grace" and "Truth.")

4. THE MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL. 7-8

Epaphras--of whom they learned the Gospel. 7
He was a beloved fellow-servant 7
Note the word sundoulou. *συνδούλου*
He was a faithful minister of Christ-diakonos
His ministry was on "Our behalf" (R.V.) 7
He commended their "love in the Spirit" 8

5. PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE CONVERTS. 9-14

Filled with knowledge of His will. 9 epignōsis
Not in natural-but spiritual wisdom.
To walk worthy-of the Lord. 10
Bearing fruit--every good work. 10
Increasing in knowledge of God. 10
Strengthened with all power. R.V. 11
ἵνα πάντες ὑπομένετε ὑπομοναίμενοι
Unto all patience & longsuffering with joyfulness.