

Summary:

The Christians in the city of Colosse had gotten off to a good start in their Christian walk; but false teachers infiltrated the church, and a heresy entered the church. Some believe that Paul never visited Colosse, but he heard of their faith (Col 1:4, 9). It is believed that the church was organized as a result of Paul's three (3) year ministry in Ephesus. During Paul's ministry in Ephesus, at least (2) men from Colosse received Christ: Epaphras & Philemon.

The Crisis:

A new doctrine was being taught in the church and it was causing confusion. Gnosticism had invaded the church, and the Gnostics were teaching that certain people who were "in the know" concerning the deeper things of God, this teaching was creating a schism in the church. The Gnostics further taught that people with a close union with God would achieve spiritual perfection. In addition they taught spiritual fullness would only accompany the Colossians if they entered the teachings of Gnosticism. The Gnostics philosophy stated that matter is evil and spirit is good.

Here's a summary of Gnosticism:

- The Gnostics had superior and elevated knowledge.
 - This superior knowledge would enable them to achieve spiritual perfection.
 - Anything done in the body had no meaning, because real life existed in the spiritual realm.
 - Divine knowledge frees one from darkness.
 - God was too holy to enter into the affairs of sinful humanity.
-

Questions: Colossians 1

Verses Questions

- | | |
|--------|---|
| (3-5) | What 3 things had Paul heard about the Colossians? |
| (6) | How long had the Colossians believers been producing spiritual fruit? |
| (7) | Who informed Paul about the Colossians? |
| (9-11) | What were Paul's 4 petitions in prayer for the Colossians? |

Bible Study Chapter 1

The Book of Colossians

- (14) What do all believers have in Christ?
- (15-17) How is Christ pre-eminent in creation?
- (18-20) How is Christ preeminent in redemption?
- (21) What were the Colossians before salvation?

Verses

Questions

- (22-23) What assured the Colossians that they would be, holy, unblameable, and unreprouable?
- (26-27) What mystery did Paul reveal to the Colossians?
- 28) What was Paul's goal in preaching?