

The Power of the Gospel in a Christ-Exalting Church **3/12/2017**
(Col. 1:11-15)

Overview

Who:

- Colossians was written by _____.
- Church founded by _____.

What:

- Epaphras is traveling to go see Paul in Rome to inform Paul about the heresies spreading throughout the church.
- The type of heresies are the founding fathers of the same false teachings we see today. (asceticism & Mysticism)

When: Was written around 61 A.D. (29 years after Christ's crucifixion)

Where: In Colossae, about 13 miles from Hierapolis in Asia Minor.
(modern-day Turkey, Iran, Syria)

Why:

- The Colossian church was a Pauline church, meaning it was a result of Paul's ministry, therefore, we find Epaphras' instruction on what he should do about the growing division in the church.
- If the body of Christ does not pray and ask God to fill new and younger believers with all the spiritual wisdom and understanding there is in Christ, we may be doing a disservice to the body and possibly hindering the solid growth of the Church.

Praying for the Power of Christ (v.11)

Strengthened =

Power =

Might =

Basically, Paul is saying, "May you be made strong by the power of the one who possesses all power and allows anyone who has a position of power to obtain power they are not powerful enough to manifest themselves. "

Suffering with patience is the heartbeat of the Christian faith.

Endurance =

Patience =

Joy =

What is the joy set before you?

- Beware of False Joys
- Is Jesus the joy behind everything you do?

Gospel-Centered Thanksgiving (v.12)

Giving Thanks =

Qualified =

Partaker =

Inheritance =

Meditating on the Work Done on Our Behalf (v.13-14)

Redemption =

Forgiveness =

Christ MUST be exalted! (v.15)

Image =

Firstborn =

Application

- Pray for new converts to be filled with all the spiritual wisdom and understanding of God.
- Pray that God would radically convict the Christian church of the lack of discipleship and spark a desire to walk side by side with new believers.
- Ask another believer if they see Christ being exalted in your daily walk?
- Find a younger believer inside and outside Berean and show them the meaning of daily exalting Christ, lest they drift and become discouraged.