

“An Excellent Reputation”

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Colossians 1:3-8

9.21.25

Introduction:

- A. How is your _____?
- B. Paul said that when he prayed for them, he always offered a prayer of _____.
- C. Notice the phrase “_____ of our _____ Jesus Christ.”
 - 1. God the Father is Jesus’ Father - not in the sense of _____ origin, but in the sense of _____.
 - 2. This phrase indicates that they are _____ separate _____.
- D. Let’s turn our attention to the _____ that Paul was so thankful for them.

I. The Colossians _____ the Gospel

- A. The first step in becoming a disciple of Jesus is always _____ the Gospel.
- B. The word “Gospel” means “_____.”
- C. The Gospel is the “word of _____.”
- D. The Gospel is the message of God’s _____.
- E. The Gospel is _____ and _____. (Rom. 1:16-17; Heb. 4:12; Isa. 55:11)

II. The Colossians _____ the Gospel

- A. Obeying the Gospel and becoming disciples of Jesus is _____ in all that Paul wrote in these verses we are looking at today.
- B. Obviously, many of the Colossians who heard the Gospel from Epaphras _____ in Jesus, _____, made the good _____, and were _____ into Christ.
- C. Several times later in the letter, Paul reminded the Colossians about their _____ to Christ (Col. 2:6, 12; 3:9-10).
- D. Obeying the Gospel puts us into Christ where we receive _____ and the _____ of the _____ (Acts. 2:38-39; Rom. 6:4; Jn. 5:24).

III. The Colossians were _____ to the Gospel.

- A. Paul defined their faithfulness in three ways:
 - 1. Their _____ in _____.
 - 2. Their _____ for the _____.
 - 3. Their _____ in _____.
- B. Notice that their growth and faithfulness had come because they came to truly appreciate God’s _____.
- C. Their faith and love had come from the _____ reserved for them in _____.
- D. Paul commended their _____ in _____.
 - 1. Faith is the _____ of things hoped for, the _____ of things not seen (Heb. 11:1, KJV).
 - 2. We are saved by faith that produces _____ (Mk. 16:16; Jam. 2:17).
- E. Paul commended them for their _____ which also sprang from their hope.
 - 1. Love is a distinguishing _____ of being a disciple of Jesus (Jn. 13:34-35; 1 Jn. 4:7-8)
 - 2. God’s love is poured into us and it fills us, _____ us, and _____ us.

Answer Key: Intro.A. reputation. B. thanksgiving. C. Father, Lord. C.1. biological, relationship. C.2. two, Beings. D. reason. I. Heard. I.A. hearing. I.B. good, news. I.C. truth. I.D. grace. I.E. powerful, effective. II. Obeyed. II.A. implied. II.B. believed, repented, confession, baptized. II.C. conversion. II.D. forgiveness, gift, Spirit. III. Faithful. III.A.1. faith, Christ. III.A.2. love, saints. III.A.3. hope, heaven. III.B. grace. III.C. hope, heaven. III.D. faith, Christ. III.D.1. substance, evidence. III.D.2. action. III.E. Love. III.E.1. mark. III.E.2. completes, compels.