

Introduction

Not Dominion!!

1. Holding Out For A Hero (Bonnie Tyler)

(1) Every day is filled w/
a struggle to overcome,
a villain to oppose, and a
hero to hold out for.

1. The struggle might be a
deadline

The villain a boss

Hero is a new job

2. " " a marriage

" " a spouse

" " they change; you
leave.

3. " " economy

" " politician

" " stimulus

(2) This season : quarantine ;
COVID ; vaccine

(3) Every person, through all time, in every place wakes up to a struggle to overcome, a villain to oppose, & a hero to hold out for.

2. Jesus Is The Hero

(1) This is a series about Jesus

He is, without a doubt, the most famous person in all of human history. More songs have been written about him, artwork created of him, and books written about him than anyone who's ever lived. Even our calendar is based off his life, dividing time before and after him. Naturally, someone this important will have fans and foes. And a lot of people have an idea of who Jesus is. They may get this idea from TV or movies, maybe from past church experience and Sunday School felt boards, from history books, or maybe from just hearsay.

(2) If there was a book of the Bible our Anthem is dedicated to, it's Colossians

" " " " " "
our theology is attributed to,
it's Colossians

" " " " "
our season is occasioned to,
it's Colossians

(3) Colossians is all about Jesus!

3. Paul is The Author (v1)

(1) Paul = Saul of Tarsus; Hebrew lineage Rom. citizen; religious extremist, pharisee
Persecuted; Damascus; 13-14 Books

(1) 1:23, 4:18 confirm

The testimony of the early church, including such key figures as Irenaeus, Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian, Origen, and Eusebius, confirms that the opening claim is genuine.

(2) Don't let people tell you "scholars" dispute Paul's authorship.

These are some types of people who say "God told me" to buy a Miata.

Or "allegedly" we've been to the moon.

(3) He is writing from prison, in Rome, to Colosse

1. Prison letter (4:3)

2. Ephesian, Php., Col., Philemon

3. Likely all were written together while under house arrest in Rome. (AD 60-62)

Acts 28:16 - And when we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who guarded him...

(4) Timothy included in greeting

1. Timothy to Paul is like

- Emineem to Dre
 - Ray to Siegfried
 - Robin to Batman
 - Nathaniel to Andrew
- } Faithful
} Side-
} Kick

2. Family - GK. Father; Jew Mother

3. Joined Paul during one of his later missionary journeys.

4. Late teens / early 20's

5. Up & coming leader in the church, Paul mentors.

↓
- Like Coldplay in the 90's

6. He is the future of the church (you get that sense 1 & 2 Tim)

7. Timothy may have scribed for Paul (like Mark for Peter)
- Better kept secret woman's eye

8. "We" also means they are closely linked in prayer, message & hope for Colosse.

(5) Ephesus messenger to Paul

(6) Tychicus is the Pastor

4. Colossae is the audience (v2a)

(1) City in Phrygia

Map

(2) Roman Province of Asia
(Modern Day Turkey)

(3) Rich in chalk deposits

• Black Wool & Dyes

(4) Major Trade junction

• E-W ; N-S Trade routes

(5) Mostly gentile population

• Large Jewish settlement

(6) Which led the purpose of this letter.

5. Grace & Peace are the purpose (v 2b)

2:18-22 - Wrong think about Jesus
= no grace & peace

* What's the Colossian "wrong thinking"?

(1) No one knows for sure

(2) Some combination of:

1. Pagan mysticism
2. Return to classical judaism

(3) Paul is writing to confront this problem by balancing

1. Orthopathy - right worship
2. Orthodoxy - right thinking
3. Orthopraxy - right living

I. Struggles To Overcome

1. Maturity

- (1) Our desire for growth is a desire for joy.
- (2) No joy in immaturity.
 1. Babies are miserable 80% of the time

2. Relationships

- (1) No joy in hurting others or allowing others to hurt us.

3. Marriage

- (1) No joy in a marriage that's hard.

4. Children

- (1) No joy in dysfunctional family

5. Job

- (1) No joy in job dissatisfaction

6. Ministry

- (1) No joy in a lonely ministry

II. Villains To Oppose (3 Layers)

1. Layer 1: Satan
1:13-16

2. Layer 2: Someone

2:18

(1) Puffed up - inflated self view;

1. Those that want you to trust your thinking

(2) Sensuous - flesh that covers the bone; Carnal mind

1. Give in to your thinking

3. Layer 3: Sin (least dealt with)

(1) Sin nature / Indwelling

1. Trump → Twitter

(2) Someone needs to take it away

(3) More you focus on Jesus, the less indwelling sin affects your thoughts, motives, deed

(✓ 3:10)

III. Hero To Hold Out For

1. Stop Managing Jesus

(1) Some of your relationships to Jesus is like my relationship to good bourbon.

1. Barting base it/stickers

(2) You want principles, not a person

(3) You want recipes, not relation

(4) You want control, not a King

What you're really saying
→

2. Start Magnifying Jesus

v3:1

(1) Very image of God (1:15)

(2) the Creator (1:16)

(3) Sustainer of all things (1:17)

(4) Head of the Church (1:18)

1. King over relationships

2. Marriages . 3. Children

4. Job 5. Ministry

Conclusion

We don't need protection from a virus, as much as we need protection from carnal thinking.

Colossians is that protection.

We don't need an economic stimulus, as much as we need a spiritual stimulus.

Colossians is that stimulus.

We don't need to be freed from quarantine, as much as we need to be freed from weak sauce images of Jesus.

Colossians is that freedom.

I'm so excited, you should be excited. Cause all we're gonna talk about is . . .

Jesus.

3:16-17