

Colossians 4

Review

Outline from Chuck Missler

Ephesians is on the church, the **Body** of Christ;

Colossians is on the Christ, **Head** of the Body.

Paul did not begin by attacking the false teacher or their doctrines. He began by exalting Jesus Christ and showing His preeminence in five areas:

- The Gospel message,
- The Redemption,
- The Creation,
- The Church, and
- Paul's own ministry.

Chapter 1: Christ's Preeminence **Declared**

Chapter 2: Christ's Preeminence **Defended.**

Chapters 3 & 4: Christ's Preeminence **Demonstrated.**

- In Christian **witness** – 4.2-6
- In Christian **service** – 4.7-18

Notes

4.1 - Concludes section which began in 3.18 concerning Christian households.

- Wives
- Husbands
- Children
- Fathers
- Bondservants
- Masters

4.2-5 - Christian Witness

- Prayer (Conversation with God) *cf.* 1.9
- and watchfulness (*cf.* “watch and pray”, *Matt* 26.41)
- Thanksgiving (*cf.* 1.3)
- ...for Missions (*cf.* *Luke* 10.2 – “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” See also *Matt* 28.19-20)
- Wisdom (*cf.* *Proverbs* 15.33 – “The fear of the LORD is instruction in wisdom”)
- Redeeming the Time (“Good, better, best, never let it rest until your good is better, and your better best”)
- Speech (*cf.* *James* 3.1-12); “You are the salt of the earth” – *Matt* 5.13
 - “Paul’s comments assume that the Colossian believers are vitally involved in the local community and have ample opportunities to interact with outsiders in a way that would commend the gospel to them.” ~ *ESV Study Bible*
 - “Few people have ever been argued into Christianity. The Christian, therefore, must remember that it is not so much by his words as by his life that he will attract people to, or repel them from, Christianity.” ~ *William Barclay*

4.7-18 - Christian Service

- Onesimus (*cf.* *Philemon*)
- Mark (*cf.* *Acts* 13.13; 15.36-41; *1 Peter* 5.13)
- Epaphras (“always struggling on your behalf in his prayers”; *cf.* 1.29)
- Luke
- Archippus (“see that you fulfill the ministry that you have received in the lord”)