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Introduction to Colossians

The Apostle Paul wrote the letter to the church at Colossae to correct and rebuke heresies being taught there. Even though he did not found this church, he felt a responsibility to care for their doctrinal purity. The three heresies addressed in this letter are paganism, Greek philosophy and Jewish legalism.

Colossians 1:1-2

I.) Author of the Letter: V1

A.) Paul: Romans 1:1, 1 Corinthians 1:1-2, Colossians 4:18 NASB, 2 Thessalonians 3:17 NASB

B.) Apostle to the Gentiles: Romans 11:13, Romans 15:15-19, Galatians 2:7-9

C.) Date of Writing: 60-62 A.D.

II.) City of Colossae

A.) Location

B.) Church: Colossians 1:7-8, Colossians 4:12, Colossians 2:1

III.) Purpose of the Letter:

A.) Combat Heresy of Paganism: Colossians 1:23, Colossians 2:6, Colossians 3:2

B.) Combat Greek Philosophy: Colossians 2:18, Colossians 2:8-9 NASB, Colossians 1:22, Colossians 1:28, Colossians 2:3, Colossians 2:10

C.) Combat Jewish Legalism: Colossians 2:11, Colossians 3:11, Colossians 2:20-23 NASB, Colossians 2:16

Food for thought: Colossians is helpful today as we deal with similar issues.