

## Colossians

### A. Prayer of thanksgiving for Colossians' fruitfulness

- a. 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus our brother, 2 To **the saints** and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- b. 3 **We give thanks to God and the Father** of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- c. **praying** always for you,
- d. 4 **Since we heard** of your faith in Christ Jesus,
- e. and of **the love which ye** have to all the saints,
- f. 5 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof **ye heard** before in the word of the **truth** of the gospel;
- g. 6 Which is **come unto you**, as it is in all the world;
- h. **and bringeth forth fruit**,
- g'. **as it doth also in you**,
- f'. since the day **ye heard** of it, and knew the grace of God in **truth**:
- e'. 7 As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; 8 Who also declared unto us **your love** in the Spirit.
- d'. 9 For this cause we also, **since the day we heard it**,
- c'. **do not cease to pray for you** and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;
- b'. 12 **Giving thanks unto the Father**,

a'. which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of **the saints** in light: 1:13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

B. Christ head of new creation of the ecclesia

15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the **firstborn** of **every creature**:

a.16 **For by (in) him** were **all things** created, **that are in heaven, and that are in earth**, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: **all things** were created **by (through) him**, and **for (in) him**:

b. 17 And he is before **all things**, and **by (in) him all things** consist.

c. **18 And he is the head of the body, the ecclesia: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.**

b'. 19 For it pleased the Father that **in him** should **all** fulness dwell;

a'. 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, **by (through) him** to **reconcile all things** unto himself; **by (through) him**, I say, **whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.**

C. Paul reveals the riches of the mystery to the Gentiles

a. 24 Who now rejoice in **my sufferings for you**, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

b. 25 **Whereof I am made a minister**, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God;

c. 26 Even the **mystery** which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made **manifest** to his saints:

c'. 27 To whom God would **make known** what is the riches of the glory of this **mystery** among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

b'. 28 **Whom we preach**, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

a'. 29 Whereunto **I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.**

*C'. Warning against false teaching stealing the riches*

A. a. 2:1 For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as **have not seen my face in the flesh**; 2 That their hearts might be comforted, **being knit together** in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; 2:3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

b. 4 And this I say, **lest any man should beguile you (paralogizomai)** with enticing words.

a'. 5 **For though I be absent in the flesh**, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. 6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: 7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

b'. 8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after **the rudiments of the world**, and not after Christ. 9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

B. 10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all **principality and power**:

C. 11 In whom also ye are **circumcised** with the **circumcision** made without hands, in putting off **the body of the sins of the flesh** by the **circumcision** of Christ:

**D. 12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him, through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.**

C'.13 And you, being **dead in your sins** and the **uncircumcision** of your **flesh**, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;) 14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

B'. 15 And having spoiled **principalities and powers**, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

A'. a. 16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: 2:17 **Which are a shadow of things to come**; but the body is of Christ.

b. 18 **Let no man beguile you of your reward** (katabrabeuo) in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

a'. 19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, **and knit together**, increaseth with the increase of God.

b'. 20 Wherefore **if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world**, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, 21 (Touch not; taste not; handle not; 2:22 Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men? 23 Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.

*B'. Set affections on Christ in heaven and put on the new*

a. 3:1 **If ye then be risen with Christ**, seek **those things which are above**, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 3:2 Set your affection on things above, not **on things on the earth**.

b. 3 For **ye are dead**, and your **life** is hid with **Christ** in God.

b'. 4 When **Christ**, who is our **life**, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

a'. 5 **Mortify** therefore your members **which are upon the earth**; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: 6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: 7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

*Put off the old man, put on the new*

a. 8 But now ye also **put off** all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. 3:9 Lie not one to another,

b. seeing that **ye have put off** the **old man** with his deeds;

b'. 10 **And have put on** the **new man**, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: 11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

a'. 12 **Put on** therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; 13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. 14 And above all these things [put on] charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

a. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; **and be ye thankful.**

b. Let the word of Christ  **dwell in you** richly in all wisdom;

b'. teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace **in your hearts** to the Lord.

a'. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks** to God and the Father by him.

### *Discipleship at home*

#### *married*

a. 3:18 **Wives**, submit yourselves unto

b. your own **husbands**,

c. as it is fit in the Lord.

b'. 19 **Husbands**,

a'. love your **wives**, and be not bitter against them.

#### *children*

a. 3:20 **Children**,

b. obey your parents in all things:

c. for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

b'. 21 Fathers,

a'. provoke not your **children** to anger, lest they be discouraged.

### *Servants*

a. 22 **Servants**, obey in all things your **masters** according to the flesh;

b. not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

c. 23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, **as to the Lord**, and not unto men;

d. 24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance:

c'. for **ye serve the Lord** Christ.

b'. 25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.

a'. 4:1 **Masters**, give unto your **servants** that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a **Master** in heaven.

### *A'. prayer for the spread of the gospel*

a. 2 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; 4:3 Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of **utterance (logos)**,

b. to **speak**

c. the **mystery** of Christ,

d. **for which I am also in bonds:**

c'. 4 That I may make it **manifest**,

b'. as I ought to **speak**.

a'. 5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. 6 Let your **speech (logos)** be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

### *Salutations*

a. 7 **All my state shall Tychicus declare unto you**, who is a beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellowservant in the Lord:

b. 8 Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that he might know your estate, and comfort your hearts;

b'. 9 With Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you.

a'. **They shall make known unto you all things** which are done here.

10 Aristarchus my fellowprisoner **saluteth you**, and Marcus, sister's son to Barnabas, (touching whom ye received commandments: if he come unto you, receive him;) 11 And Jesus, which is called Justus, who are of the circumcision. These only are my fellowworkers unto the kingdom of God, which have been a comfort unto me.

12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, **saluteth you**, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. 13 For I bear him record, that he hath a great zeal for you, and them that are in Laodicea, and them in Hierapolis.

14 Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, **greet you**.

15 **Salute** the brethren which are in **Laodicea**, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house. 16 And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the **Laodiceans**; and that ye likewise read the epistle from **Laodicea**.

17 And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.

4:18 The salutation by the hand of me Paul.

Remember my bonds.

Grace be with you. Amen.