

CHRIST IS SUPREME

Colossians 1:1-24

- Hope Fest!—Friday, Oct. 27, 9-3 at Austin Reconciliation Church, 7000 Cameron Rd.; sorting clothes; 3-5 move donations from the church to Reagan HS; 5-9 set up. Kids welcome (they order pizza for dinner!)
- Sat. Oct 28—Hope Fest event. Shifts available and help needed. www.hopefestaustin.org
- Shaped to Serve—Nov. 4. See Deb Rieber. Gift bags for Heart of Texas Pregnancy Center.
- All Class Fellowship—Nov. 15

CHRIST IS SUPREME

- Intro to Colossians--Background
- Pastoral Prayer of Paul Col. 1:1-14
- The Preeminent Position of Christ Col. 1:15-23

Intro to Colossians

- Who—Paul
- What—a letter
- When—about 60 A.D.
- Where—in prison in Rome
- To whom—the church at Colossae
- Why—the Colossian heresy
- Style—pastor's heart; logic; long sentences
- Main theme—Christ is Supreme

Outline of Colossians

1. The Exalted Christ chpts 1 & 2
2. The Exalted Calling chpts 3 & 4

Paul is thankful for

- The Colossians' faith, love, and hope
- The gospel's success and fruit

What God has done, is doing, will do for us in Christ

- We are God's holy and faithful ones, saints
- We are brothers and sisters, the same Father
- We are "in Christ" —part of the joyous mystery of His body
- We are recipients of God's grace freely poured out on us.
- We have peace (shalom), well-being the result of divine grace and the presence of God.
- God has given us: faith in Christ, love for all the saints, and hope stored up in heaven.
- Abundant life in Christ.

Paul Prays for

- Spiritual knowledge—wisdom, understanding
- Walk with Christ—worthy, knowledgeable, powerful, thankful

Application

Pick a brother or sister in Christ and make a list of all the things you are thankful for in them... then send (or tell) the list to that person.

Pick one or two brothers or sisters in Christ and pray Paul's intercessory prayer, wrapped in thanksgiving—at least 9 qualities mentioned by Paul.

Paul Prays for us

- To be filled with the knowledge of God's will
- Spiritual wisdom and understanding
- A life worthy of the Lord
- To please Him in every way
- Bear fruit in every good work
- Grow in the knowledge of the Lord
- Be strengthened with His power
- Have great endurance and patience
- Joyfully give thanks to the Father

The Preeminent Position of Christ

“I am going to make Jesus Christ so attractive that men will turn to Him.”

--Dwight L. Moody

He is Lord of all, or He is not lord at all.

Christ is Supreme in

- Eternity
- Creation—firstborn, creator, goal, sustainer
- The church
- Reconciliation

Application

- Meditate on one of the 10 descriptions of Christ every day this week
- Pick an area of your life—marriage, family, friends, profession, calendar, time, money, conversations, play...--and give Christ first place, every moment, every day, every circumstance.

Christ's Attributes

- The image of the invisible God
- Firstborn over all creation
- Creator—source and destination of all
- Before all things
- Sustainer—in Him all things held together
- The beginning
- Firstborn among the dead
- Supremacy in all things
- All the fullness of God dwells in Him
- Through Him and His blood on the cross all things are reconciled with God.