

# LiftNotes

## Colossians 1: How Great is Jesus!

February 7th, 2021 by Kasey Crawford

**Today's Passages:** Colossians 1

Epaphras, a missionary sent out by Paul, planted the church at Colossae, and later went to Rome to visit Paul in prison, to ask for \_\_\_\_\_...  
**just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf<sup>8</sup> and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.**  
Colossians 1:7

The church at Colossae was under attack and opposition...

**I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments... See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit...**  
Colossians 2:4, 8

The attacks were primarily lies about spiritual things that took the \_\_\_\_\_ off of and away from Christ.

Those ideas and lies threatened to deceive them and take them \_\_\_\_\_.

So Paul is teaching and praying on their behalf...

**<sup>9</sup> And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup> so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; <sup>11</sup> being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, Colossians 1:9-12**

Paul's ultimate goal is that they would walk in a manner worthy of Jesus, through knowing Him which will empower them to be full of enduring \_\_\_\_\_ and Gratitude.

# LiftNotes

To that end (worship), Paul begins the letter of Colossians by fixing their eyes on the greatness of Jesus:

- ◆ Jesus has rescued us from the prison of sin and taken us "home" to His Kingdom, and thus made us worthy of His \_\_\_\_\_. (**1:12-14**)  
"Redemption" = liberation from bondage
- ◆ Our Savior is not a local deity. He is the \_\_\_\_\_ Christ, Creator of all, Sustainer of all and Ruler over all. (**1:15-17**)
- ◆ Yet, He is the resurrected Head of every local church. He is fully God, yet His death on the cross reconciled heaven and earth to \_\_\_\_\_.
- ◆ He reconciled us to Himself so He could \_\_\_\_\_ us before Himself holy, blameless and above reproach. (**1:21-22**)

Since the moment sin entered the world, humanity has feared being "presented" before God (**Genesis 3:7-11**)

"Above reproach" = without \_\_\_\_\_. In Christ, you can't even be accused of being unholy or unworthy. Jesus won't listen. 😊

## Responding to God...

What human "philosophies" tend to take your focus away from the pre-eminence of Christ?

Can you identify the lie(s) in those philosophies?

What aspect of the greatness of Jesus from Colossians 1:12-22 stands out to you most? Why?

**Answers:** help, Preeminence, captive, joy, inheritance, Cosmic, Himself, present, accusation