

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS

¹ Paul an Apostle of Iesu Christ by the wyll of God and brother Timotheus. ² To the sayntes which are at Colossa and brethren that beleve in Christ. Grace be with you and peace from God oure father and from the Lorde Iesus Christ. ³ We geve thanks to God the father of oure Lorde Iesus Christ alwayes prayenge for you ⁴ sence we hearde of youre faith which ye have in Christ Iesu and of the love which ye beare to all sayntes ⁵ for the hopes sake which is layde vp in store for you in heven of which hope ye have herde before by the true worde of the gospell ⁶ which is come vnto you even as it is in to all the worlde and is frutefull as it is amonge you from the fyrst daye in the which ye herde of it and had experiece in the grace of God in the trueth ⁷ as ye learned of Epaphra oure deare felowe servaunt which is for you a faythfull minister of Christ ⁸ which also declared vnto vs youre love which ye have in the sprete. ⁹ For this cause we also sence the daye we herde of it have not ceasyd prayenge for you and desyringe ¹⁰ that ye myght be fulfilled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdome and spretuall vnderstodynge that ye myght walke worthy of the lorde in all thynges that please beyng frutfull in all good workes and encreasyng in the knowledge

of God ¹¹ strengthened with all myght thorowe hys glorious power vnto all pacience and longe sufferynge with ioyfulnes ¹² gevyng thanks vnto the father which hath made vs mete to be part takers of the enheritaunce of saintes in light. ¹³ Which hath delivered vs from the power of dercknes and hath translated vs in to the kyngdome of his dere sone ¹⁴ in whom we have redempcion thurow his bloud that is to saye the forgevenes of sinnes ¹⁵ which is the ymage of the invisible god fyrst begotten of all creatures. ¹⁶ For by him were all thynges created thynges that are in heven and thynges that are in erth: thynges visible and thynges invisible: whether they be maieste or lordshippe ether rule or power. All thinges are creatyd by hym and in him ¹⁷ and he is before all thinges and in him all thynges have their beyng. ¹⁸ And he is the heed of the body that is to wit of the congregacion: he is the begynnyng and fyrst begotten of the deed that in all thynges he might have the preeminence. ¹⁹ For it pleased the father that in him shuld all fulnes dwell ²⁰ and by him to reconcile all thyng vnto him silfe and to set at peace by him thorow the bloud of his crosse both thynges in heven and thynges in erth. ²¹ And you (which were in tymes past straungers and enymes because youre myndes were set in evyll workes) hath he now reconciled ²² in the body of his flesshe thorowe deeth to make you holy vnblameable and with out faut in his awne syght ²³ yf ye continue grounded and stablysshed in the fayth and be not moved away from

the hope of the gospell wher of ye have herde howe that it is preached amonge all creatures which are vnder heven wher of I Paul am made a minister. ²⁴ Now ioye I in my soferinges which I suffre for you and fulfill that which is behynde of the passions of Christ in my flesshe for his bodies sake which is the congregacion ²⁵ wherof I am made a minister acordynge to the ordinaunce of god which ordinaunce was geuen me vnto you warde to fulfill the worde of god ²⁶ that mistery hid sence the worlde beganne and sence the begynnyng of generacions: but now is opened to his saynctes ²⁷ to whom god wolde make knowen the glorious riches of this mistery amonge the gentyls which riches is Christ in you the hope of glory ²⁸ whom we preach warnyng all men and teachinge all men in all wisdom to make all men perfect in Christ Iesu. ²⁹ Wherin I also laboure and stryve even as farforth as hys workynge worketh in me myghtely.

2

¹ I wolde ye knewe what fyghtinge I have for youre sakes and for them of Laodicia and for as many as have not sene my parson in the flesshe ² that their hertes myght be comforted and knet togedder in love and in all ryches of full vnderstandynge for to knowe the mistery of God the father and of Christ ³ in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. ⁴ This I saye lest eny man shuld begyle you with entysinge wordes. ⁵ For though I be absent in the flesshe yet am I present with you in the sprete

ioyinge and beholdinge the order that ye kepe and youre stedfast fayth in Christ. ⁶ As ye have therefore receaved Christ Iesu the Lorde even so walke ⁷ roted and bylt in him and stedfaste in the fayth as ye have learned: and therin be plenteous in gevyng thanks. ⁸ Beware lest eny man come and spoyle you thorow philosophy and disceatfull vanitie, thorow the tradicions of me and ordinaunces after the worlde and not after christ. ⁹ For in him dwelleth all the fulnes of the godheed bodyly ¹⁰ and ye are complete in him which is the heed of all rule and power ¹¹ in whom also ye are circucised with circumcision made mith out hondes by puttinge of the sinfull boddy of the flesshe thorow the circumcision that is in Christ ¹² in that ye are buried with him thorow baptism in whom ye are also rysen agayne thorowe fayth that is wrought by the operacion of god which raysed him from deeth. ¹³ And ye which weare deed in synne thorow the vncircumcision of youre flesshe hath he quyckened with him and hath forgeve vs all oure trespases ¹⁴ and hath put out the handwritinge that was agaynst vs contayned in the lawe writte and that hath he take out of the waye and hath fastened it to his crosse ¹⁵ and hath spoyled rule and power and hath made a shewe of the openly and hath triumphed over them in his awne persone. ¹⁶ Let noman therefore trouble youre consciences aboute meate and drynke or for a pece of an holydaye as the holydaye of the newe mone or of the sabboth dayes ¹⁷ which are nothinge but shaddowes of thynges to come:

but the body is in Christ. ¹⁸ Let no man make you shote at a wronge (marke) which after his awne ymaginacion walketh in the humblenes and holynes of angels thinges which he never sawe: causlesse puft vp with his fleshly mynde ¹⁹ and holdeth not the heed wherof all the body by ioyntes and couples receaveth norisshment and is knet to gedder and encreaseth with the in creasyng that commeth of god. ²⁰ Wherefore if ye be deed with Christ from ordinaunces of the worlde why as though ye yet lived in the worlde are ye ledde with tradicions of them that saye? ²¹ Touche not tast not handell not: ²² which all perysshe with the vsinge of the and are after the commaundmentes and doctryns of men ²³ which thinges have the similitude of wisdom in chosen holynes and humblenes and in that they spare not the body and do the flesshe no worshype vnto his nede.

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¹ If ye be then rysen agayne with christ seke those thynges which are above where Christ sitteth on the right honde of god. ² Set youre affeccion on thynges that are above and not on thinges which are on the erth. ³ For ye are deed and youre lyfe is hid with Christ in god. ⁴ When Christ which is oure lyfe shall shewe him silfe then shall ye also appere with him in glory. ⁵ Mortifie therfore youre membres which are on the erth fornicacion vncleannes vnnaturall lust evyll concupiscece and coveteousnes which is worshippinge of ydols: ⁶ for which thynges

sakes the wrath of God cometh on the chyldren of vnbeleve. ⁷ In which thynges ye walked once. when ye lived in them. ⁸ But now put ye also away from you all thynges wrath fearsnes maliciousnes cursed speakyng filthy speakyng out of youre mouthes. ⁹ Lye not one to another that the olde man with his workes be put of ¹⁰ and the new put on which is renued in knowledge after the ymage of him that made him ¹¹ where is nether gentile ner Iewe circumcision nor vncircumcision Barbarous or Sithian bonde or fre: but Christe is all in all thynges. ¹² Now therfore as electe of god holy and beloved put on tender mercie kyndnes humblenes of myndes meknes longe sufferynge ¹³ forbearynge one another and forgevyng one another if eny man have a quarrell to a nother even as Christ forgave you even so do ye. ¹⁴ Above all these thinges put on love which is the bonde of parfectnes. ¹⁵ And the peace of god rule in youre hertes to the which peace ye are called in one body. And se that ye be thankfull. ¹⁶ Let the worde of Christ dwell in you plenteously in all wisdom. Teache and exhorte youre awne selves in psalmes and hymnes and spretuall songes which have favour with them syngyng in youre hertes to the lorde. ¹⁷ And all thynges (whatsoever ye do in worde or dede) do in the name of the lorde Iesu gevinge thakes to god the father by him. ¹⁸ Wyves submit youre selves vnto youre awne husbandes as it is comly in the Lorde. ¹⁹ Husbandes love youre wyves and be not bitter vnto them. ²⁰ Children obey youre fathers and mothers in all thinges for that is wel

pleasyng vnto the lorde. ²¹ Fathers rate not youre children lest they be of a desperate mynde. ²² Servauntes be obedient vnto youre bodyly masters in all thynges: not with eye service as men pleasers but in synglenes of herte fearynge god. ²³ And whatsoever ye do do it hertely as though ye did it to the lorde and not vnto men ²⁴ for as moche as ye knowe that of the lorde ye shall receave the rewarde of inheritaunce for ye serve the lorde Christ. ²⁵ But he that doth wronge shall receave for the wronge that he hath done: for there is no respect of persons.

4

¹ Ye masters do vnto youre servauntes that which is iust and egall seinge ye knowe that ye also have a master in heven. ² Continue in prayer and watch in the same with thanks gevyng ³ prayenge also for vs that God open vnto vs the dore of vtteraunce that we maye speake the mistery of Christ wherfore I am in bondes: ⁴ that I maye vtter it as it becometh me to speake. ⁵ Walke wysely to them that are with out and redeme the tyme. ⁶ Let youre speache be all wayes well favoured and be powdred with salt that ye maye know how to answer every man. ⁷ The deare brother Tichicos shall tell you of all my busynes which is a faythfull minister and felowe servaunt in the Lorde ⁸ whom I have sent vnto you for the same purpose that he myght knowe how ye do and myght comfort youre hertes ⁹ with one Onesimus a faythfull and a beloved brother which is one of you. They shall

shewe you of all thinges which are adoyng here. ¹⁰ Aristarchus my preson felowe saluteth you and Marcus Barnabassis systers sonne: touchinge whom ye receaved commaundementes. Yf he come vnto you receave him: ¹¹ and Iesus which is called Iustus which are of the circumcision. These only are my workefelowes vnto the kyn-
gdome of God which were vnto my consolacion. ¹² Epaphras the servaut of Christ which is one of you saluteth you and all wayes laboreth fervently for you in prayers that ye maye stonde perfect and full in all that is the will of god. ¹³ I beare him recorde that he hath a fervet mynde towarde you and towarde them of Laodicia and them of Hierapolis. ¹⁴ Deare Lucas the Phisicion greteth you and Demas. ¹⁵ Salute the brethren which are of Laodicia and salute Nymphas and the congregacion which is in his housse. ¹⁶ And when the pistle is reed of you make that it be reed in the congregacion of the Laodicians also: and that ye lyke wyse reade the epistle of Laodicia. ¹⁷ And saye to Archippus: take hede to the office that thou hast receaved in the Lorde that thou fulfill it. ¹⁸ The salutacion by the honde of me Paul. Remember my bondes. Grace be with you. Amen. 'Sent from Rome by Tichicus and Onesimus.'

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