

COLOSSIANS

¹ Paul, apostle of Jesus Christ, by the will of God, and Timothy, brother,

² to them that be at Colosse, holy and faithful brethren in Christ Jesus, grace and peace to you of God our Father and of the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ We do thankings to God, and to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, evermore praying for you,

⁴ hearing your faith in Christ Jesus, and the love that ye have to all holy men,

⁵ for the hope that is kept to you in heavens. Which ye heard in the word of truth of the gospel,

⁶ that came to you, as also it is in all the world, and maketh fruit, and waxeth, as *[it is]* in you, from that day in which ye heard and knew the grace of God in truth.

⁷ As ye learned of Epaphras, our fellow *[or our even-servant]*, most dearworthy, which is a true minister of Jesus Christ for you;

⁸ which also showed to us your loving in Spirit.

⁹ And therefore we from the day in which we heard, cease not to pray for you, and to ask, that ye be filled with the knowing of his will in all wisdom and ghostly understanding;

¹⁰ that ye walk worthily to God pleasing by all things, and make fruit in all good work, and wax in the science of God,

¹¹ and be comforted in all virtue, by the might of his clearness, in all patience and long abiding with joy,

¹² that ye do thankings to God and to the Father [*or doing thankings to God the Father*], which made you worthy into the part of heritage of holy men in light.

¹³ Which delivered us from the power of darkneses, and translated [*us*] into the kingdom of the Son of his loving,

¹⁴ in whom we have again-buying, and remission of sins.

¹⁵ Which is the image of God invisible, the first begotten of each creature.

¹⁶ For in him all things be made, in heavens and in earth, visible and invisible, either thrones, either dominations, either princehoods, either powers, all things be made of nought by him, and in him,

¹⁷ and he is before all, and all things be in him.

¹⁸ And he is head of the body of the church; which is the beginning, [*or the first of all*], and the first begotten of dead *men*, that he hold the first dignity [*or primacy*], in all things.

¹⁹ For in him it pleased all plenty to inhabit,

²⁰ and by him all things to be reconciled into him, and made peace by the blood of his cross, those things that be in earths, either that be in heavens.

²¹ And when ye were sometime aliened [*or made strangers*], and enemies by wit, in evil works, now he hath reconciled *you*

²² in the body of his flesh by death, to have you holy, and unwemmed, and without reproof before him.

²³ If nevertheless ye dwell in the faith, founded, and stable, and unmoveable from the hope of the gospel that ye have heard, which is preached in all creature that is under heaven. Of which I, Paul, am made a minister,

²⁴ and now I have joy in passion for you, and I [*ful*] fill those things that fail of the passions of Christ in my flesh, for his body, that is the church.

²⁵ Of which I Paul am made minister [*or a servant*] by the dispensation of God, that is given to me in you, that I [*ful*] fill the word of God,

²⁶ the private [*or the mystery*] that was hid from worlds and generations. But now it is showed to his saints,

²⁷ to whom God would make known the riches of the glory of this sacrament in heathen men, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

²⁸ Whom we show, reprovng each man, and teaching each man in all wisdom, that we offer each man perfect in Christ Jesus.

²⁹ In which thing also I travail, in striving by the working of him, that he worketh in me in virtue.

CHAPTER 2

¹ But I will that ye know, what busyness I have for you, and for them that be at Laodicea, and whichever saw not my face in flesh,

² that their hearts be comforted, and they *be* taught in charity, into all the riches of the

plenty of under-standing, into the knowing of *[the]* mystery of God, the Father of Jesus Christ,

³ in whom all the treasures of wisdom and of science, *[or of cunning]*, be hid.

⁴ For this thing I say, that no man deceive you in height of words.

⁵ For though I be absent in body, by spirit I am with you, joying and seeing your order and the firmness of your belief that is in Christ.

⁶ Therefore as ye have taken Jesus Christ our Lord, walk ye in him,

⁷ and be ye rooted and builded above in him, and confirmed in the belief, as ye have learned, abounding in him in doing of thankings.

⁸ See ye that no man deceive you by philosophy and vain fallacy, after the tradition of men, after the elements of the world, and not after Christ.

⁹ For in him dwelleth body-like all the fullness of the Godhead.

¹⁰ And ye be *[ful]* filled in him, that is head of all principat and power.

¹¹ In whom also ye be circumcised in circumcision not made with hand, in despoiling *[or in nakedness]* of the body of flesh, but in circumcision of Christ;

¹² and ye be buried together with him in baptism, in whom also ye have risen again by faith of the working of God, that raised him from death.

¹³ And when ye were dead in your guilts, and in the prepuce of your flesh, he quickened together *you* with him; forgiving to you all guilts *[or all trespasses]*,

14 doing away that writing of decree that was against us, that was contrary to us; and he took away that from the middle, pitching it on the cross;

15 and he spoiled principats and powers, and led out trustily, openly overcoming them in himself.

16 Therefore no man judge you in meat, or in drink, or in part of feast day, or of new moon, or of sabbaths,

17 which be shadow of things to coming [*or to come*]; for the body *is* of Christ.

18 No man deceive you, willing *to teach* in meekness, and [*the*] religion of angels, those things which he hath not seen, walking vainly, swollen [*or in-blown*] with wit of his flesh,

19 and not holding the head, of which all the body, by bands and joinings together underministered and made, waxeth into [*the*] increasing of God.

20 For if ye be dead with Christ from the elements of the world, what yet as men living to the world deem ye?

21 That ye touch not, neither taste, neither treat with hands those things,

22 which all be into death by that use, after the commandments and teachings of men;

23 which have a reason of wisdom in vain religion [*or in superstition*] and meekness, and not to spare the body, not in any honour to the fulfilling of the flesh.

CHAPTER 3

¹ Therefore if ye have risen together with Christ, seek ye those things that be above, where Christ is sitting on the right half of God.

² Savour [*or Understand*] ye those things that be above, not those that *be* on the earth.

³ For ye be dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

⁴ For when Christ shall appear, your life, then also ye shall appear with him in glory.

⁵ Therefore slay ye your members, which be on the earth, fornication, uncleanness, lechery, evil covetousness, and avarice, which is service of maumets [*or simulacra*];

⁶ for which things the wrath of God came on the sons of unbelief;

⁷ in which also ye walked sometime, when ye lived in them.

⁸ But now put ye away all things, wrath, indignation, malice, blasphemy and foul words of your mouth.

⁹ Do not ye lie, [*or gab*], together; despoil ye you from the old man with his deeds,

¹⁰ and clothe ye the new man, that is made new again into the knowing of God, after the image of him that made him;

¹¹ where is not male and female, heathen man and Jew, circumcision and prepuce, barbarous and Scythian, bondman and free, but all things and in all things Christ.

¹² Therefore ye, as the chosen of God, holy and loved, clothe [*ye*] you with the entrails of mercy, benignity, and meekness, temperance, patience;

¹³ and support ye each other, [*or bearing up together*], and forgive to yourselves, if any man against any hath a quarrel; as the Lord [*Christ*] forgave to you, so also ye.

¹⁴ And upon all these things have ye charity, that is the bond of perfectness [*or of perfection*].

¹⁵ And the peace of Christ enjoy in your hearts, in which ye be called in one body, and be ye kind.

¹⁶ The word of Christ dwell in you plenteously, in all wisdom; and teach and admonish yourselves in psalms, and hymns, and spiritual songs, in grace singing in your hearts to the Lord.

¹⁷ All thing, whatever thing ye do, in word or in deed, all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, doing thankings to God and to the Father by him [*or doing thankings to God the Father by him*].

¹⁸ Women, be ye subject to your husbands, as it behooveth in the Lord.

¹⁹ Men, love ye your wives, and do not ye be bitter to them.

²⁰ Sons, obey ye to your father and mother by [*or in*] all things; for this is well pleasing in the Lord.

²¹ Fathers, do not ye provoke your sons to indignation, that they be not made feeble-hearted.

²² Servants, obey ye by all things to fleshly lords, not serving at the eye, as pleasing to men, but in simpleness of heart, dreading the Lord [*God*].

²³ Whatever ye do, work ye of will as to the Lord and not to men;

²⁴ witting that of the Lord ye shall take yielding of heritage. Serve ye to the Lord Christ.

²⁵ For he that doeth injury [*or wrong*] shall receive that that he did evil; and acception [*or taking*] of persons is not with God.

CHAPTER 4

¹ Lords, give ye to servants that that is just and even, witting that also ye have a Lord in heaven.

² Be ye busy in prayer, and wake in it, in doing of thankings;

³ and pray each for other, and for us, that God open to us the door of word, to speak the mystery of Christ; for which also I am bound,

⁴ that I show it, so as it behooveth me to speak.

⁵ Walk ye in wisdom to them that be without-forth, again-buying time.

⁶ Your word be savoured with salt evermore in grace; that ye know, how it behooveth you to answer to each man.

⁷ Tychicus, most dear brother, and faithful minister, and my fellow [*or my even-servant*] in the Lord, shall make all things known to you, that be about me.

⁸ Whom I sent to you to this same thing, that he know what things be about you, and comfort your hearts,

⁹ with Onesimus, most dear and faithful brother, which is of you; which shall make all things that be done here, known to you.

¹⁰ Aristarchus, prisoner with me [*or mine even-captive*], greeteth you well, and Marcus, the cousin of Barnabas, of whom ye have taken

commandments; if he come to you, receive ye him;

¹¹ and Jesus, that is said Justus; which be of circumcision; they alone be mine helpers in the kingdom of God, that were to me in solace.

¹² Epaphras, that is of you, the servant of Jesus Christ, greeteth you well; ever busy for you in prayers, that ye stand perfect and full in all the will of God.

¹³ And I bear witnessing to him, that he hath much travail for you, and for them that be at Laodicea, and that be at Hierapolis.

¹⁴ Luke, the leech most dear, and Demas, greet you well.

¹⁵ Greet ye well the brethren that be at Laodicea, and *the woman* Nympha, and the church that is in her house.

¹⁶ And when this epistle is read among you, do ye, that it be read in the church of Laodiceans; and read ye that *epistle* that is of Laodiceans.

¹⁷ And say ye to Archippus, See the ministry, that thou hast taken in the Lord, that thou [*ful*] fill it.

¹⁸ My salutation, by the hand of Paul. Be ye mindful of my bonds. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

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Wycliffe's Bible with Modern Spelling, was made in response to requests from readers who wanted my Wycliffe's Old and New Testaments and Apocrypha in one volume. Printing limitations dictated the number of pages available to me and the letter size. In my previous books, Wycliffe's Bible, Wycliffe's Old Testament, Vols. 1 amp 2, Wycliffe's New Testament, and Wycliffe's Apocrypha, I have tens of thousands of rewritten verses, presented in parentheses "()", to provide help in comprehending the 14th century Middle English vocabulary and grammar. In this present volume, with space at a premium, those "helps" had to be eliminated, to make room for the text of the Apocrypha.

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