

**DIGGING DEEPER SERIES
COLOSSIANS AND PHILEMON
A 13-WEEK STUDY**

FOR USE WITH THE *COLOSSIANS AND PHILEMON* TRUTH FOR TODAY COMMENTARY
BY OWEN D. OLBRICHT AND BRUCE MCLARTY

Colossians

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| Week 1
Col. 1:1, 2
pp. 3–46 | Introducing Colossians;
Greeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Author• The Place of Origin and Date• The Destination• The Problem of Heresy• The Purpose and the Major Themes• From Paul and Timothy (1:1)• To Faithful Colossian Brethren (1:2) |
| Week 2
Col. 1:3–8
pp. 47–74 | Paul’s Thanksgiving for the Colossians <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Prayer of Thanks (1:3)• Their Faith and Love (1:4)• Their Hope of Heaven (1:5)• The Fruit Resulting from Their Faith (1:6)• Epaphras’ Report (1:7, 8) |
| Week 3
Col. 1:9–14
pp. 75–107 | Paul’s Prayer for the Colossians <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Their Knowledge and Spiritual Wisdom (1:9)• Their Christian Walk and Fruit Bearing (1:10)• Their Spiritual Strength (1:11, 12a)• Their Entrance into the Kingdom of Light (1:12b, 13)• Their Forgiveness and Ours in Christ (1:14) |
| Week 4
Col. 1:15–20
pp. 109–142 | The Greatness of Christ <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Image of the Invisible God and the Firstborn of All Creation (1:15)• The Creator of All Things (1:16)• The One Who Holds All Things Together (1:17)• The Head of the Church and Supreme (1:18, 19)• The Basis of Reconciliation (1:20) |
| Week 5
Col. 1:21–29
pp. 143–177 | Reconciliation Through Christ;
Paul’s Labors for the Colossians <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Their Former Condition (1:21)• Their Reconciliation Through the Death of Christ (1:22)• Their Required Faithfulness (1:23)• His Joy: Suffering for Their Sake (1:24)• The Mystery Revealed to Them (1:25–27)• His Goal for Them: Completeness in Christ (1:28, 29) |
| Week 6
Col. 2:1–9
pp. 181–212 | Christ, the Source of Wisdom and Knowledge;
Paul’s Picture of the Fullness of Christ, Part 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• His Desire: Their Full Understanding of God’s Mystery (2:1, 2) |

- His Revelation: All Wisdom and Knowledge in Christ (2:3, 4)
- His Delight: Their Faith in Christ (2:5)
- His Admonition: To Walk in Christ as They Had Received Him (2:6)
- His Encouragement: To Be Built Up in Christ (2:7)
- A Caution Not to Be Taken Captive by Human Teachings (2:8)
- Deity Embodied in Christ (2:9)

Week 7

Col. 2:10–15
pp. 212–265

Paul's Picture of the Fullness of Christ, Part 2

- Completeness in Christ (2:10, 11)
- Life and Forgiveness in Christ (2:12, 13)
- Freedom in Christ from Law Ordinances (2:14)
- Opposition Exposed by Christ (2:15)

Week 8

Col. 2:16–23
pp. 267–310

Holding Fast to the Head

- Following Christ Instead of the Law (2:16, 17)
- Avoiding Human Practices (2:18, 19)
- Dying with Christ to the World's Principles (2:20–23)

Week 9

Col. 3:1–9
pp. 313–344

The New Life in Christ, Part 1, 2a

- Seeking the Things Above (3:1–4)
- Putting to Death Their Immoral Past (3:5–7)
- Putting Off Ungodly Character (3:8, 9)

Week 10

Col. 3:10–17
pp. 344–398

The New Life in Christ, Part 2b;
Response to Christ

- Being Renewed After the Image of Christ (3:10, 11)
- Putting On Godly Qualities (3:12–14)
- Receiving His Peace (3:15)
- Worshiping Him with Singing (3:16)
- Doing All in His Name (3:17)

Week 11

Col. 3:18—4:1
pp. 399–428

Responsibilities in Relationships

- Wives to Husbands (3:18)
- Husbands to Wives (3:19)
- Children to Parents (3:20)
- Fathers to Children (3:21)
- Slaves to Masters (3:22–25)
- Masters to Slaves (4:1)

Week 12

Col. 4:2–18
pp. 431–482

Final Remarks

- Admonitions
- To Pray, Especially for Paul (4:2–4)
- To Act Wisely Toward Outsiders (4:5, 6)
- Instructions and Commendations
- Related to Tychicus (4:7, 8)
- Related to Onesimus (4:9)
- Greetings and Remarks
- Greetings from Coworkers (4:10–14)
- Greetings and Remarks to the Brethren (4:15–17)
- Closing Remarks (4:18)

Philemon

Week 13
Philemon
pp. 487–538

Greetings (vv. 1–3)
Thanksgiving and Prayer (vv. 4–7)
Paul's Appeal for Onesimus (vv. 8–20)
Closing (vv. 21–25)