

Colossians 1:1-14 **Thanksgiving and prayer for the Colossians – Thanksgiving for God's work of Redemption**

Paul, an Apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God

¹ Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, ² To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colosse:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving for the report of the Church at Colosse

³ We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, ⁴ since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; ⁵ because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, ⁶ which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth; ⁷ as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸ who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.

Prayer for the Colossians

⁹ For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; ¹⁰ that you may have a walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹ strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

Thanksgiving for God's work of Redemption

¹² giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.
NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Paul, an Apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God [Colossians 1:1-2]

- ✠ Paul received his Apostleship by the will of God, not by human choice or effort.
- ✧ Timothy was with Paul at the time this letter was written to the Colossians.
- ✧ The letter was addressed to the Saints and faithful brethren in Christ in Colosse.
- ✧ Colosse was a city of Phrygia about 12 miles from Laodicea.
- ✧ Paul and Aristarchus were prisoners in Rome. [Colossians 4:10]
- ✠ Paul greets them with grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving for the report of the Church at Colosse [Colossians 1:3-8]

- ✠ We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints.
- ✧ Epaphras came to Paul a prisoner in Rome with a gift from the Church in Colosse and a report regarding the Colossian Church he founded.
- ✧ Epaphras was apparently a fellow worker with Paul who had planted the Church in Colosse.
- ✧ Epaphras had informed Paul of their faith in Christ Jesus and of their love for all the Saints.

- ✧ Paul had not seen the Colossian Church personally, so this letter to the Colossians is his response to the report from Epaphras.
- ✧ Paul said that since he first heard the report from Epaphras, he and those with him give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for the Colossians.
- ✧ Paul acknowledges that their faith in Christ and love for the Saints, is because of the hope they had heard was laid up in Heaven for them, this they first heard when they heard the word of truth of the Gospel.
- ✧ The message of the Gospel came to the Colossians as it has also spread in all the world.
- ✧ In all the Churches the Gospel is bringing forth fruit as it is among the Colossians from the time they heard and knew the truth of the Grace of God from Epaphras.
- ✧ Paul calls Epaphras our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf.

Prayer for the Colossians [\[Colossians 1:9-11\]](#)

- ✧ From the day Paul learned about the faithfulness of the Colossians, he and those with him pray for the Church continually. Their prayer request is that:
 - ✧ The Colossians may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. (This filling comes through the Holy Spirit).
 - ✧ They may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him.
 - ✧ A worthy walk brings forth fruit in every good work.
 - ✧ Believers need to grow, increasing in the knowledge of God.
 - ✧ To endure persecution, they need to be strengthened with all might to be strong in patience and longsuffering, with joy.
 - ✧ This strengthening comes according to God's glorious power.

Thanksgiving for God's work of Redemption [\[Colossians 1:12-14\]](#)

- ✧ Believers need to be found giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.
 - ✧ We give thanks, because, God has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love.
 - ✧ In Christ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.