

Colossians

INTRODUCTION



Some Jews cause uproar & attack Jason's House seeking for Paul & Silas

Paul called to preach in Macedonia

Paul forbidden by the Spirit to preach in Asia & Bithynia

Timothy joins Paul & Silas

Paul & Barnabas divided over John Mark Barnabas & John Mark sail to Cyprus Paul & Silas go through Syria and Cilicia

Lydia & her household believe Paul & Silas beaten & thrown in jail Jailer and his household believe

Bereans receive the Word

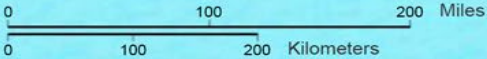
Paul speaks at the Areopagus

Paul meets Aquila & Priscilla Paul brought before Gallio

PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 15:36 - 18:22

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches of Asia" - Rev. 2-3
- ← Paul's Route



PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY
Acts 19:1 - 21:14

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches of Asia" - Rev. 2-3
- ← Paul's Route

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Paul preaches the Gospel for 2 yrs under house arrest as he awaits for his appeal to Caesar

Three Taverns Appii Forum
Paul meets fellow believers and is encouraged

Paul bitten by a viper suffers no harm Many come to faith and are healed

Ship lost in storm All aboard swim safely to shore

Ship caught in storm 14 days tempest-tossed Hope to be saved given up Paul encourages all aboard saying only ship will be lost

Paul's warning about the dangers of the voyage ignored

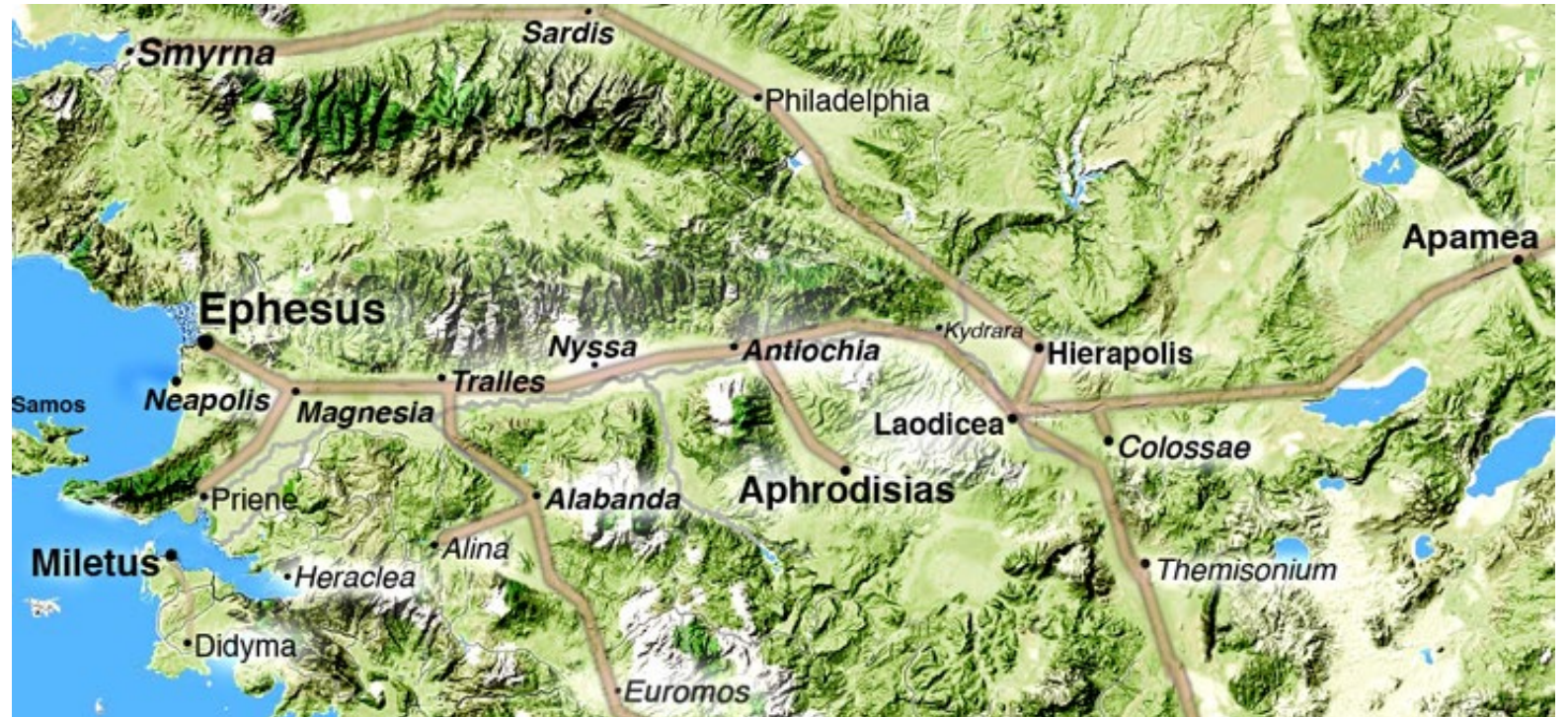
Change to a grain ship sailing to Italy

Paul boards a ship Sent to Rome to appeal to Caesar

INTRODUCTION TO THE LETTER TO THE COLOSSIANS

About the city of Colossae

- At the time, it was located on the main highway and trade route from Ephesus to the Euphrates Valley, twelve miles from Hierapolis, ten miles from Laodicea and 100 miles from Ephesus
- Colossae was a city of Phrygia on the Lycus river
- Commercially known for the wool and weaving industry
- A city with a mixture of Greeks and Jews



INTRODUCTION TO THE LETTER TO THE COLOSSIANS

About the church in Colossae

- Epaphras travels to Rome to inform Paul of the church in Colossae (Colossians 1:7-8)
- The church was faced with false teachers much like the Judaizing teachers and an early form of Gnosticism
 - 2:8 – Philosophy, empty deceit by the traditions of men and the fundamental principles of the world
 - 2:16 – Judging regarding food, drink, festival, new moon or Sabbath day
 - 2:18 – False humility, worship of angels, false visions due to their fleshly minds
- The church met in the house of Philemon (Philemon 1-2)
- Other members of the church: Epaphras, Philemon, Apphia, Archippus, Onesimus



INTRODUCTION TO THE LETTER TO THE COLOSSIANS

About the church in Colossae

Gnosticism

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 - Apphia, Archippus, Onesimus
- ✓ Gnosticism is a religious philosophy, and not a religion.
 - ✓ Gnosticism combined ideas from Greek philosophy, oriental mysticism, and Christianity
 - ✓ Gnosticism is knowledge in the spiritual world, mystically acquired (not from God but mystically)
 - ✓ Gnosis is the single path to the highest holiness and the highest practice. This knowledge is attained by an intensive training of the body and spirit, either through asceticism, or as a rule, through strict methodological meditation.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE LETTER TO THE COLOSSIANS

About the letter to the Colossians

- **Who:** Paul and Timothy (1:1)
- **What:** To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ at Colossae (1:2)
- **When:** A.D. 62 – Also wrote letter to the Ephesians and Philemon and all were sent together (Eph 6:21-22; Col 4:7-9) and delivered by Tychicus and Onesimus
- **Where:** From Rome during his first imprisonment (Acts 28/ Col 4:10,18)
- **Why:** This is a letter of edification and admonition based on information received from Epaphras (Col 1:7-9; 2:6-23)
- **Theme:** Complete in Christ (Col 2:10)



A COMPARISON OF PARALLEL TEXTS

EPHESIANS AND COLOSSIANS

	<u>EPHESIANS</u>	<u>COLOSSIANS</u>		<u>EPHESIANS</u>	<u>COLOSSIANS</u>
Salutation	1:1-2	1:1-2	Christ Nourishes His body	4:15-16	2:19
Holy, Blameless	1:4	1:22	Put off old man/ Put on new	4:22-32	3:5-15
Redemption	1:7	1:14	God's wrath against sin	5:3-6	3:5-8
All are reconciled in Christ	1:10	1:20	Be filled with spirit/word	5:18-20	3:16-17
Position of Christ	1:20-21	3:1	Sing and make melody/with grade	5:19	3:16
Christ as head of church/body	1:22-23	1:18,24	Redeem the time	5:15-16	4:5
Spiritually dead in sin	2:1	2:13	Responsibility of wives	5:22-24	3:18
Made alive in Christ	2:5-6	2:12-13	Responsibility of husbands	5:25-33	3:19
Reconciliation of Jews/Gentiles	2:11-13	1:20-22; 2:11	Responsibility of children	6:1-3	3:20
End of the law of Moses	2:14-16	2:14-17	Responsibility of fathers	6:4	3:21
The mystery Paul preached	3:1-7	1:25-29	Responsibility of servants	6:5-8	3:22-25
Walk in lowliness, meekness	4:2-3	3:12-15	Responsibility of masters	6:9	4:1
One body	4:4	3:15	Paul's request for prayers	6:18-20	4:2-4
			Work for Tychicus	6:21-24	4:7-8

Colossians 1:1-8

- Thanksgiving for the Colossians
 - Their *faith* in Christ Jesus
 - Their *love* for all the saints
 - The *hope* laid up in heaven
 - That they learned by hearing the word of truth
 - They learned it the same way the rest of the (Roman) world had learned it (Rom 10:12-17)
 - The word was constantly bearing fruit and increasing just as it had been doing in them since they heard it and understood it (Jn 15:5)
 - They heard and learned these words from Epaphras
 - He also informed Paul of their genuine love in the Spirit (Gal 5:16, 22)