### Colossians

## Chapter 1

1Paul, an Apostle of the Anointed Jesus by the Will of God, and Timothy our brother, 2to the holy and faithful brothers in the Anointed One at Colossae:  
  
May you have loving care and peace from our Father, God.  
  
  
3We always thank the God and Father of our Lord, Jesus the Anointed One, when we’re praying for you... 4Since we’ve heard about your faith in the Anointed Jesus, and of the love you have for all the Holy Ones – 5through the hope that’s been reserved for you in the heavens.  
  
This is the same hope that you were taught when the truth of the good news 6was first brought to you.  
  
[And today] it’s producing fruit and increasing throughout the entire world – the same as it’s been doing among you since the day you first heard of it, and came to an accurate understanding about the truth of God’s loving care.  
  
7[You first heard through] EpaPhras our beloved fellow slave, who’s a faithful servant of the Anointed One on our behalf... 8And he’s the one who told us about the love that you have through the Breath [of God].  
  
9As a result, from the very day that we heard [this about you], we haven’t stopped praying for you, and asking for you to be filled with a complete knowledge of [God’s] will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.  
  
10For we want you to walk in a way that’s worthy of the Lord – and to be completely pleasing [to him] while you keep on producing the fruitage of all sorts of good deeds... Growing in a full knowledge of The God 11and getting stronger in the power of His Glorious Might, so that you’ll be able to endure everything joyfully and patiently, 12while you thank the Father who qualified you to receive a portion of the inheritance among the Holy Ones in the light.  
  
13For He’s drawing us to Himself from out of the power of darkness, and transferring us into the Kingdom of His beloved Son 14(into which we’ve been delivered through his blood [spurious words] by the forgiving of our sins), 15who is the image of the invisible God and the firstborn of all creation.  
  
16It was through him that everything in the heavens and on the earth was created, both the things that are visible and the things that are invisible…  
  
It was all created through him and for him, regardless of whether it’s thrones, rulerships, governments, or powers... 17Since he was before everything and everything came into existence through him.  
  
18And now he’s the ‘head’ and origin of the body of the congregation, the beginning, and the first to be born from the dead so that he would be first in everything.  
  
19Yes, [God] saw that it was good for him to be the completion of everything, 20and He’s using [Jesus] to bring it all back into a peaceful, good relationship with Himself (through his blood [that was shed] on the upright [stake])and He’s using [Jesus] to bring it all back into a peaceful, good relationship with Himself (through his blood [that was shed] on the upright [stake])<sup class="difference">[Syr]... Whether these things are heavenly or earthly.  
  
  
21So although you were once just aliens and enemies (since all you thought about then was doing wicked things) 22[Jesus] has restored your relationship with [God] by means of the death of [his] fleshly body.  
  
[This was done so that] you could be presented to Him as holy, without any blemishes, and free from all accusations… 23That is, as long as you stay firmly founded and deeply rooted in the faith – and aren’t diverted from the hope of the good news that you were taught, and which is being preached in all creation under the sky (of which I, Paul, am a servant).  
  
24So, even as I’m here suffering, I’m rejoicing over you!  
  
  
Yes, right now my flesh is finishing whatever may have been lacking during the difficult time that the Anointed One endured... And I’m doing this on behalf of his body, the congregation, 25which is what I’m serving.  
  
This is the obligation God’s assigned to me for your sakes – to fulfill His Word 26about the mystery that was hidden from past ages and peoples, but which has now been made clear to His Holy Ones.  
  
27Yes, it was God’s Will to allow you other races to understand the glorious richness of this mystery. So the Anointed One can be in you too, [yes, the one] who is the hope of our glory 28whom we’ve been advertising.  
  
[We did this] while admonishing you and teaching you in wisdom... So that we can present every person as complete in the Anointed One.  
  
29I’m working hard and struggling to do this – but helped by the power he gives me.