

COLOSSIANS AND PHILEMON

Paul's Prayer and Praise

Colossians 1:9-23

Lesson 3

- Intro.** 1. This prayer and the praise Paul expresses form one of the major sections of Colossians. What verse "leads into" this section?
2. As you study this prayer ask, "Is this the kind of prayer I pray for the church?"

I. Paul's Prayer for the Colossians (1:9-12)

1. Paul prayed that they might be filled with _____ in all _____ and _____.
2. The purpose of this was that they might walk _____ so as to _____, being fruitful in _____ and increasing in _____, strengthened with all might according to His _____ (See Eph. 3:20).
3. The ultimate goal was all _____ and _____ with _____.
Compare this prayer with the prayer for the Ephesians recorded in Ephesians 1:15-19. Can you picture a church in which such prayers are being answered? Let each of us ask, "Are these my ideals and am I making progress toward attaining them?"
4. What has the Father done to justify the thanksgiving offered (vs. 12)?

II. Praise to the Father and Son (1:13-20)

1. What has the Father done in addition to what is stated in verse 12?
2. List the things said about the Son in verses 15-18. How do these refute errors in Colossae?
 - a. vs. 15
 - b. vs. 15
 - c. vs. 16
 - d. vs. 16
 - e. vs. 16
 - f. vs. 17
 - g. vs. 17
 - h. vs. 18
 - i. vs. 18
 - j. vs. 18
 - k. vs. 18*Compare with Ephesians 1:20-23*
3. What was God's good pleasure (19)?
4. What did this make possible (vs. 20)?
How extensive is it?

III. Reconciliation of the Colossians (and of us)

1. What was their former condition (vs. 13)?
(vs. 21)? Where was this alienation and enmity?
2. What had been done for them (22-22)?
What was the purpose of it (22)?
Compare with Ephesians 2:1-10 and 5:25-27.
3. Was this reconciliation unconditionally and eternally accomplished (vs. 23)?
4. What was the Colossians part in maintaining it?