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# ◆ COLOSSIANS ◆

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Volume 1 Issue 1

Ministry of the Saviour

January 1997

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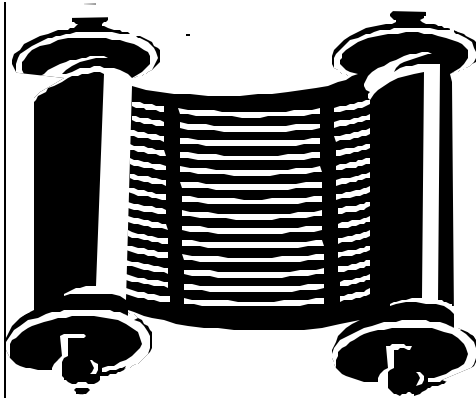
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## WRITING TO SAY THAT I AM PRAYING FOR YOU

**P**aul the apostle of Jesus Christ is writing to the saints or consecrated people of God. He greeted them as believing and faithful brethren in Christ and prayed for spiritual favor and blessings and peace of heart that comes from God the Father.

His letter then stated that he had heard of how they had leaned on God with their entire human personality in trust and confidence of his power and wisdom and goodness. Your love for other saints is known. He took joy in the knowledge that they looked forward to experiencing the rewards laid up in heaven because they had heard the good news of Jesus Christ the son of God and had believed on him as their hope of salvation.

The same gospel that came to you is indeed bearing fruit and growing



*That you bear fruit in every good work and steadily growing and increasing in the knowledge of God ...to a fuller, deeper and clearer insight....*

by its own inherent power even as it has done among you at Colossae. Others come to know God just as you did, by the undeserved favor of God, (grace), and understand accurately and clearly acquainted with it.

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### *Inside This Issue*

Committed to grow.  
Committed to Christ.  
Committed to serve.  
Committed to new life.  
Committed to freedom.  
Committed to new life.  
Committed in Jesus name  
Committed to minister.

## MY CONSTANT PRAYER FOR YOU

**B**ecause of your love in the Holy Spirit, we have not ceased to pray and make special requests for you.

First we asked that you be filled with a full deep and clear knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom having comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God and in understanding and discernment of spiritual things.

Second, that you may walk, live, and conduct yourself in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him and desiring to please him in all things.

Third, that you bear fruit in every good work and steadily growing and increasing in the knowledge of God and by the knowledge of God to a fuller, deeper and clearer insight, acquaintance and recognition with him.

## JESUS THE EXACT LIKENESS OF GOD

that you may be invigorated and strengthened with all power according to the might of the glory of God to be able to exercise every kind of endurance and patience and perseverance and forbearance with joy while giving thanks to the Father who has qualified and made us fit to share the portion which is the inheritance of God's holy people in the light.

The Father has delivered and drawn us to himself out of the control of darkness and the evil one into the kingdom of his son. In Jesus we have redemption through his blood which means that because of his blood, our sins were forgiven.

Jesus is the exact likeness of the unseen God. He is the firstborn of all creation.

It was in Jesus that all things were created. All things include those in heaven and in earth, those that are seen and those not seen, those things physical and those things that are in power structures and authorities. All things exist

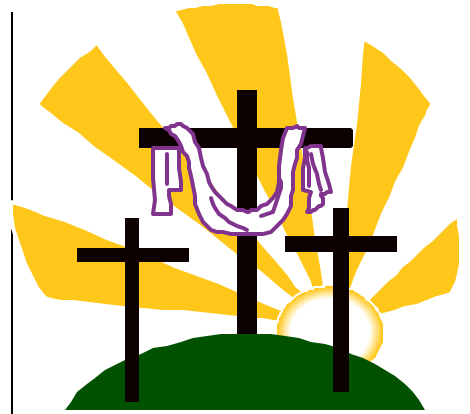
through him and in him and by him and for him. Nothing exists without him. He existed before all things and in him all things consist or cohere, and are held together.

Christ is also the head of the church. He is the beginning, the first-born from among the dead so that he alone might in every respect stand first and be pre-eminent. This is because it has pleased the

*All things exist in Jesus and through him and by him and nothing exists without him.*

Father that all divine fullness, perfection, powers and attributes should dwell in him permanently. God purposed that through the intervention of the Son that all things should be completely reconciled back to Himself. Both on earth and in heaven, God made peace through the blood of the cross of Jesus.

Before your salvation, you were alienated and estranged from the Father and had a hostile attitude of



mind in your wicked activities. But Jesus reconciled you to God by the death of his flesh on the cross to present you holy and faultless and irreproachable in the Father's presence.

This he will do provided that you continue to stay with and in the faith in Christ, well grounded and settled and steadfast, not shifting or moving away from the hope which rests on the good news which you have heard as being designed for and offered without restrictions to every person under heaven.



## CHRIST IN YOU THE HOPE OF GLORY

Until Jesus, the mystery was “hidden in God” that the divine purpose was to make of both Jews and Gentiles a whole new thing, the church. That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God is the rock on which the church or ecclesia (an assembly of called out ones) is founded without separation of Jews and Gentiles but as one in Christ. Paul was given the task of spreading this good news to the world.

Jesus is the name above all names, the son of God, the pure love of God that came and gave himself so that we might have the opportunity to experience his love and salvation. He gave his blood as a blood sacrifice to forgive all our sins of the past, present, and future. This is the atonement that he made for us. He took the handwriting of all ordinances against us and nailed them to the cross and covered them with his blood so that the Father could look at us and see a pure and righteous and holy child that he had adopted into his family to fellowship

with. God drew us to him and we accepted Christ by the gift of faith which comes from God, then he adopted us into his family to be sons and daughters and co-heirs of the kingdom with the firstborn JESUS CHRIST. All this he has done because he loved us even to the point of giving his son as a ransom for us. Our salvation is by the grace of God and there is no person who is good enough to earn

*Jesus gave his blood as a blood sacrifice for our sins.....this is the atonement that he made for us.*

or deserve or demand salvation from God. The works that we do are because we love him and want to serve and please him and are so excited about his love for us that we cannot sit by and do nothing when the world around us is hurting and troubled and going to Hell.

After he gave his blood, he spoiled principalities and powers and overcame the evil one. Satan is already beaten and defeated, he is now working on his last evil

before Jesus returns to Earth but the victory is already won. Jesus won. Then, after that he went to into the presence of God in the Holy of Holies not made by physical hands where he intercedes on our behalf before almighty God. There is no other mediator between God and man but Jesus Christ. By his blood, we no longer must rely on a priest to once a year to offer sacrifice for our sins, but we are forgiven and clean and able to enter into the presence of God by the blood of Jesus Christ.

You have freedom in Jesus, do not let men put you in bondage by making rules that are of this world and not of God. You know the truth of what Jesus has done for us so if you do not add or take away from the truth, you can live in freedom.

When someone gives oppressive rules on what to touch or taste or handle and what not to touch ,taste, or handle according to man’s doctrines, flee from that person. Keep your mind on Christ and the things above. and not the lower things .

## BEWARE OF DECEPTIVE PHILOSOPHIES

**U**se good judgment when dealing with the ideas of men. Good judgment means that you compare other ideas with the Bible. The Bible is always right, man is not. Here are a few ideas of man that you need to watch out for so that you do not come in bondage to wrong ideas.

**NEW AGE**— Whatever is, is God.—God is within you—Reincarnation—Meditation to harness the power within.

**MATERIALISM**— Physical matter is the only fundamental reality—everything can be explained in terms of matter.

**SECULAR HUMANISM**— Life without reference to God—Human reason is supreme.

**PRAGMATISM**—No absolute truth exists—Importance is determined solely by practical results.

**EXISTENTIALISM**—The individual is of paramount importance—truth is subjective.

**HEDONISM**—Pleasure is the sole good in life—live for today.

**FATALISM**—Events are fixed in advance and are unalterable—human beings are powerless to change things.

We are complete in Jesus. There is no need or

desire to call an occult hotline to know what will happen tomorrow. I don't even want to hear what one of Satan's demons wants to predict for me. I chose to listen to hear the word of the Lord. If I have not heard from him lately, all I have to do is to open a Bible and there are 66 books filled with the word of the Lord and every word is 100% correct. By reading the Bible, we know the mind of God and there is no chance

*The Bible is always right, man is not.*

that we are listening to a familial spirit sent by Satan to cause our fall.

The order of things to set ourselves in congruence with God's will is as follows. First, is to get saved by belief in Jesus. Next is to get grounded and rooted and set in as children of God by study of the word and prayer.

Next, we learn as we grow that we are as a candle in the darkness to the world. We are ambassadors for Christ.

We do not work to obtain salvation, but we use the gifts of the spirit and the gifts of the body of Christ to minister to the needs of the world that is dying in sickness and sin and we have the only message that can save them from destruction. The love of God motivates us to work for the kingdom of light. How can we love God if we have no concern for the lost and hurting and sick around us?

We need to make that decision to make Godly things more important in our lives than anything else. There will always be another ballgame, another movie, another TV program. There may not be another opportunity to minister to the needs of one of our friends or neighbors.

Remember, believers will be judged, and rewarded according to their works. Why spend all of our earthly time doing meaningless things when we could be laying up treasures in Heaven instead of paying insurance on stuff that we leave behind.

## CHANGED TO NEW LIFE IN JESUS—

**U**pon our faith in Jesus, the barrier between us and God is broken down and because the blood of Jesus has cleansed us from sin and unrighteousness, God comes into our life.

He brings his spirit to indwell us and teach us his ways and give us strength to overcome the trials that lay before us. If this body is a temple where the spirit of God dwells, then where ever I am is Holy Ground. I am standing in the presence of God all of the time and where he is is holy. I do not want to sin for God is here and Holy God can not be in the presence of sin. How can one be a “good ol boy enjoying a sinner’s life all week “ and a believer with the spirit of God in him on Sunday? Are we all perfect? No, not one of us.

When we believe, we are saved and God fills us with the Holy Spirit, that is as much of us as we surrender to him. As the Spirit instructs us, we surrender other areas to God and he fills them with the Holy Spirit. Jesus totally gave himself to God and was totally filled with the Spirit. We make progress as we run the race of life so that we yield more and more areas of our self to God and become more and more filled with the Spirit as we

become more Christlike. Being Spirit filled is not like a load of cement that is hard and never changing, it is more like putting gas in a car, it is the fuel that gives power to the new life and it needs to be refilled as often as possible.

It is God through the Holy Spirit that helps us to put off anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy talk, dishonesty etc. and to replace it with loving kindness, humbleness,

*I am standing in the presence of God all of the time and where he is is holy.*

meekness, longsuffering, forgiving, and mercy.

Let the word of God be in you at all times, give thanks to God for all things in your life, singing hymns and spiritual songs to the Lord so that whatever you do is done as to the Lord. Be dead to the lusts of this world but alive to the things of the spiritual world which bring peace.

Jesus is sitting on the right hand of God. We need have no fear because no

problem or trial comes upon us without his knowledge and permission. If it is too hard for us, it is not allowed. For every thing that comes against us, he has given us power and authority to overcome in the name of Jesus. Have problems gotten you down? Are you in bondage to sin? Are you in bondage to a job? Are you sick? Are you filled with fear? Are you broke? Whatever the problem that you face, authority to overcome it is given to Jesus Christ. All problems have their solution in the Blood of the Lamb (Jesus). Will all be healed? Will all be made rich? Will all problems be taken away? It depends on what God needs to do in your life. His will is to shape you to be Christlike and obedient to him. Even God’s son was not spared pain in this life that the rewards of eternity might be won. We are not a slave to circumstances but we are victorious over the problems of this world by the power of God.

## FREEDOM IN JESUS — OUR HOPE

**Y**e shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. Have you never been in bondage? If you have ever committed a sin, then you were in bondage to the kingdom of darkness. Have you allowed someone to put their set of rules of how to be righteous on you? Do you attend a church that has a form of Godliness but denies the power given to God's children? For lack of knowledge, my people perish. It is time for God's people to rise up, fill their minds with his Holy word so that they experience the power that God wants to entrust to each of us who believe. If you accept the holy scriptures, which are able to make you wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus, then you can accept the holy scriptures that says, "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go to my father." It is time to stand up and declare that Jesus is Lord and I am going to

serve him with all of my being and talents and gifts and not be discouraged at any problem that comes my way because I know that the word says, "all that will live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." Reject the ideas of this world that will pass away and reject the attempt to direct your spiritual life by the worldly minded. When in the fullness of time, it was time for Jesus to take his stand

*For lack of knowledge, my people perish.  
see: Col. 2 & 3, Luke 4, John 8 & 14, II Tim. 3*

until death for us, he willingly did it. Now it is time for you to take your stand for him. There is much for you to do as part of the body of Christ to reach the lost in the last days and minister to the needs of others. The only question is, will you take a stand for God?

Do you really care about reaching the lost? Do you really care about the sick and those with needs? Do you care enough that you

asked God to use you as a tool to minister to their needs? The word says in John 14:13 that whatsoever ye ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in my name, I will do it. You know that we are to continue the work that Jesus began which was (1) preach the gospel to the poor (2) heal the brokenhearted (3) preach deliverance to the captives (4) recovering of sight to the blind (5) set at liberty those in bondage (6) tell of the coming of the Lord.

Rejoice, our kinsman redeemer has come. Our Jubilee is here. We were in bondage and he set us free. We don't have to be in bondage to anyone any more. Jesus washed my sins away in his blood and now through him, I can enter the Holy of Holies and pray and praise the Father and he can look on me as Holy because he sees me through the blood of Jesus.

*How could we ever lay aside so great a privilege to follow shallow earthly teachings? Lord, let me be wise enough to walk in your will and obey you and to minister as a part of the body of Christ doing your work and will where ever I am.*

## BORN AGAIN INTO A CHRISTLIKE LIFE

**W**e believe or faith Jesus . He adopts us into his family. Then what do we want to do? Just as baptism is a symbol that we die to the old and buried and rise to the new, we need to let the evil and fruit of the kingdom of darkness go so that we die to the old way and come to life anew. The old things that we should look for in our life and try to eliminate include: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, dirty talk, lies regardless of their color.

Because we are chosen of God, we should view all things with a new insight. As we learn more and more about Christ, we strive continually to be more and more like him. We do not see people as being from this or that group, because race, education, and social status mean nothing any more. What matters is that a person has Jesus Christ or he doesn't....

We who have salvation should, because of the deep love and concern of God, in turn show a tenderhearted mercy and kindness to

others lest we become a stumbling block to the world. Live quietly and patiently even when that becomes painful. The victory that you have over problems may be a blessing to someone in search of God. Be forgiving, even when you are the one that has been wronged and the other person is almost unlovable. Remember, he forgives us as we forgive others. Go even farther,

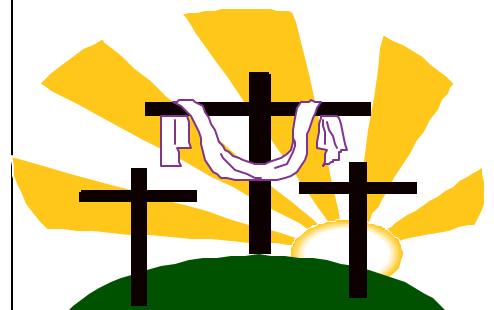
*What matters is that a person has Jesus Christ or he doesn't..*

love the unlovable for the Father loved you in all your sin and saved you by his grace, not by wonderful works that impressed him and required that he give you salvation.

It could be said that love leads us to perfection. For it is in the love that comes out of our hearts and lives that we put into practice the love and new life that God has raised us to. If love guides each of our lives, the church (body of Christ), will live in perfect harmony. The

extent to which the church is out of tune is the extent to which the individual members are out of touch with the love of God. If you are not in touch with God, then who was it that did not read the word and pray and seek his will every day?

It is our responsibility to let the peace of God rule in our hearts. It is our responsibility to let the word of Christ enrich us to wisdom. As it is our responsibility to teach and edify and build up one another with the words and wisdom that have come from our experiences. We should be so thankful for what God has done for us that we are constantly singing spiritual songs, hymns, and praising God with a thankful heart for his loving kindness and be bold enough to not be ashamed of it.



## IN THE NAME OF JESUS

Whatever you do whether you are speaking or working or relaxing, do it in the name of Jesus just as if you were the personal representative of God. Consider how doing that would change your life. If you could not say something to or in front of Jesus then it is out of place anywhere, anytime, anyway. If a job is the kind of job that Jesus would not work at because it is dishonest, or it brings harm or hurt to others or that one could not be honest and do this then you are in the wrong job. If the way that you relax does not bring honor to God, then you may need to change some or all of your activities. If Jesus were visiting with you today, would you have to tell your friends that you could not join them today because of the way they talk or drink or the activities that you enjoy? If Jesus were visiting today would you treat your spouse the same? Would you treat your children the same as usual?

The truth is that Jesus is

visiting you today! When you were saved, you allowed God to come inside your body so that it became a temple to God! Everywhere you walk is holy ground because He lives within you and wherever He is is holy. Every thing you do is in the name of Jesus or it is against the name of Jesus.

How you deal with your husband or wife is a reflection of how you live

*Everywhere you walk is holy ground because Jesus lives within you and where Jesus is is holy.*

for Jesus. How you deal with your children, relatives, friends, and people at work is a reflection of Christ in you. If it were against the law to treat people as Christ would, would there be enough evidence to convict you? In fact, would there be anything in your life to suggest even bringing charges against you? I pray that you step out to do right before God and that you have the boldness and courage to stand just as Jesus had the boldness and

courage to stand against the religion of man and go to the cross and spill his blood that you might have the salvation that you enjoy today. When your salvation was not cheap or even reasonable, Jesus gave his earthly life in agony on the cross that you without lifting a finger could experience the gift of salvation that you could not buy with the wages of a lifetime. How can we neglect to be thankful for so great a salvation? How can we not let Jesus shine through us and our lives that we might light the way for others? Every thing that we do can be a witness to others of the love of God. If it is not, is it something that I should be involved in?

I have overcome the kingdom of darkness, and the world and I continue to overcome every obstacle in my way through the name of Jesus. I refuse to be discouraged, or let sickness get me down, or things put me in bondage. This job is where God has put me today to meet my financial needs but God is my source in the name of Jesus. Next time that Satan comes against me, I will have victory in the name of Jesus.



## UNDERSTANDING YOUR MINISTRY

**W**e first looked at growing in Christ and desiring to be more Christlike. Then we discussed how to pray for ourselves, our family, and our fellow believers in the fellowship that we all might be wise in spiritual things and have an understanding of the will of God and please and honor him in all that we do. That we do good and kind things for others while learning to know God better and better. We pray for the might and power of God in his glorious strength to enable us to overcome and keep going without regard to circumstances so that we do not even lose our joy in the Lord.

As we become mature in the faith through Bible study and fellowship with the Father through prayer and our times of praise and worship together with other believers, we learn to appreciate the fullness of the ministry of Jesus so that we give thanks to the Father for all he has done for us. Jesus who was God and with God before the foundation of the

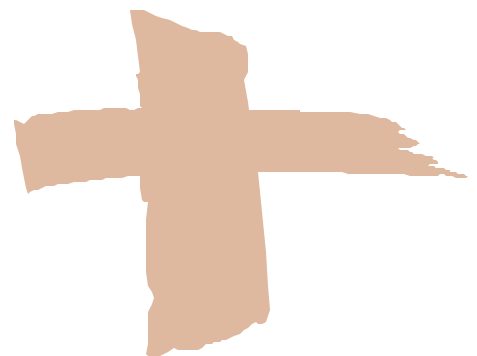
the Earth loved us enough to die on the cross to deliver us from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light. That is right! The one through whom all creation was formed and the one who continues to hold all of creation together loved me enough to come and die on the cross that I might have salvation! Only God can have that kind of love. Jesus who was fully God came to reconcile me to God

*It is the responsibility of every believer to use his gifts and be an active part of the body of Christ.*

and be a physical example of how God would walk on this earth and not sin. As if that were not enough on his part that he saved me, he filled me with the Holy Spirit to indwell me and teach me so that my lifestyle can be pleasing to him. So that I can put down roots and be more unmovable than a tree. So that I can be built up and established in the faith.

Did he intend that I should study more and more

about less until I know everything about nothing? God forbid that I should be ever learning and never come to the realization of the truth that after salvation, the only reason that I need to remain is to grow up enough to minister to others. God is not lacking, and he does not require of me that I do something that is not possible to me. He enabled me to minister because he gave me the gifts of the Spirit to use while also giving me privilege to be a part of the body of Christ. It is then my responsibility to use my gifts and be an active part of the body of Christ. It is the responsibility of every believer to walk as Jesus walked and minister as he ministered in Jesus name. How can I neglect so great a salvation or miss so great an opportunity?



## MINISTER IN THE NAME OF JESUS

**W**e are all called to minister. Some wish to sit back and be ministered to all of their life. That is like the child that is in diapers and on the bottle but only grows larger and never grows up. On those occasions that it happens, parents do not love the child less but it is not what they desired. Spiritually, if we do not grow and mature and reach toward the fullness of Christ, are we not less than God desired for us? Remember that we are representatives of Christ to the world. We are the light in the world of darkness. If you as a Christian do not shine your light, there will be people in darkness around you who may never see light. With every gift

and privilege that God gives us, there is a corresponding responsibility. Remember that Jesus took care of your salvation. You are not earning your salvation. It is that having the joy of our salvation, we have trouble containing our desire to minister in the name of Jesus who has dealt with us so generously.

Ministry is not a thing that we do down at the church. Ministry starts with

*Ministry is not a thing that we do down at the church.*

our spouse and children and friends and neighbors and co-workers and even the people that we happen to come in contact with only one time. You serve God by

the way you do your job and by the way that you drive getting there. The way that act when you are dead to the old way of thinking, acting, and talking and alive to the Christlike way of thinking, acting, and talking is a ministry by your example. It is for believers to let others see Jesus the light of the world shine to the dark and the lost around us.

Finally, stand in continual prayer and thanksgiving. Watch and be alert for the temptations of Satan. But do not be down and concentrate on the circumstances around you but keep your eyes on Jesus who is able to make us victorious over all that we encounter.

Ministry of the Saviour  
Wayne Deer

