

# The Gospel Truth

Colossians 1: 1 – 8

25 July 2021 A.M.

Series: Living in Contentment

# Colossians 1: 1 - 5

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, <sup>2</sup> To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ *who are* at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. <sup>3</sup> We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, <sup>4</sup> since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love which you have for all the saints; <sup>5</sup> because of the hope laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel

# Colossians 1: 6 - 8

<sup>6</sup> which has come to you, just as in all the world also it is constantly bearing fruit and increasing, even as *it has been doing* in you also since the day you heard *of it* and understood the grace of God in truth; <sup>7</sup> just as you learned *it* from Epaphras, our beloved fellow bond-servant, who is a faithful servant of Christ on our behalf, <sup>8</sup> and he also informed us of your love in the Spirit.

# Purposeful Greeting Vv. 1 – 2.

- Paul identifies himself as the authority, by God's will.
  - Necessary considering the issue he will address.
- Timothy identified as brother, but no coauthor.
- Saints and faithful refer to same people in church.
  - Note they are in Christ and in Colossae.
- Grace and peace from God our Father.
  - This is the first hint that you can live in contentment.

# Thanks and Prayer Vv. 3 – 5.

- Giving thanks always when they prayed for the Colossians.
  - To God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
- Constantly thanking God for;
  - Faith – saving faith which includes repentance, obedience, and an object (Jesus Christ).
  - Love – the measurable result of saving faith especially in relation to love of others in the faith.
  - Hope – the strong assurance of God's fulfillment of promises, most of which are yet to come, and a willingness to sacrifice the present on the altar of the future.

# Beginning with Gospel Truth. Vv. 6 – 8.

- The had previously heard this gospel through Epaphras (V. 5).
  - It had reached the world of Rome and continues.
  - It was bearing fruit and increasing like a tree over grasses. They were evidence of this themselves.
  - Understand the grace of God in that truth.
- The gospel had been preached faithfully.
  - Epaphras identified as fellow bond servant, and faithful servant of Christ sent by Paul.
  - Epaphras also identified as the informer behind Paul's response in this letter.

# Conclusion

- With Grace we can have peace, submitting under God's leadership given to us and being faithful in His word, we can be truly content.
- Thankfulness and prayer, especially on behalf of others can bring us true contentment.
- Having saving faith, proved in our love and based on hope in future promises, can give us contentment.
- Uncompromised Gospel truth preached and received, and growing in us and others positive response brings a holy contentment.