

1 - A LETTER TO COLOSSE (COLOSSIANS 1:1-8)

I. Paul's greetings (1:1-3)

A. The author (1:1)

1. The author's identity

- The writer of the letter is _____.

2. The nature of his identity

a. Apostle

- He identifies himself as an _____.

b. God's choice

- He states that he was _____.

3. Paul's Companion

- Paul also greets them on behalf of _____.

B. The recipients (1:2a)

- Paul addresses this letter to the believers in _____.

- He refers to them as _____.

C. The greeting (1:2b)

- Paul bestows the traditional blessing of grace and peace from the Father and Jesus.

II. Paul's Prayer of Thanksgiving (1:3-8)

A. The offer of thanksgiving and prayer (1:3)

- Paul offered thanks to God and Jesus Christ for the _____.

- Paul also stated that he _____.

B. The basis for thanksgiving (1:4-8)

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1. Their testimony (1:4)

- Paul stated that he had heard the _____.
- Paul stated that he had also heard of their _____.

2. Their hope (1:5-8)

a. The future hope (1:5a)

- The source of their faith and love was their _____.

b. The message of the hope (1:5b)

- They were presented this hope in the _____.

c. The presentation of the message (1:6)

- This gospel message has come to them as it had to _____.
- This gospel message is present among _____.

d. The ministry of Epaphras (1:7-8)

1. His ministry (1:7a)

- Epaphras had reinforced _____.

2. His character (1:7b)

- Paul commends Epaphras as a _____ on their behalf.

3. His report (1:8)

- Epaphras had reported to Paul and his companions concerning _____.