

COLOSSIANS OUTLINED

Developed by Bob Young

Introduction

Salutation, 1:1-2
Laudation (praise), 1:3-8
Purpose/thesis, 1:9-12 [transitions to the...]
Subject/theme, 1:13-20

***1:21-2:5, Ministry: what does a ministry focused on Christ look like?**

Reflects Christ's commitment to the body, the church
Is characterized by a servant heart
Answers God's commission and calling
Makes primary the word of God/mystery, in its gloriously rich application
Proclaims Christ
Is dependent on God's energy
Is built on relationship
Seeks to accomplish God's purposes and meet the needs of people

****2:6-19, Problem: the "Not Christ" life (2:6, as then....)**

The goal defined, 6-7 (stated positively)
The threat described—false approaches, 8 (stated negatively)
The solution developed—Christ, 9-15 (stated positively)
 See Christ's fullness and live out that fullness
 Know Christ's forgiveness
 Imitate Christ's faithfulness
 Experience freedom
The danger detailed—false measurements, 16-19 (stated negatively)
 Focusing on the shadow, not reality
 Allowing false judgments/controls
 Disconnectedness from Christ
 Seeking unhealthy growth
 Exalting human commands
 Unrestrained indulgence

*****2:20-3:4 Focus: Christ (2:20, 3:1, if then....)**

Past—you died with Christ, you died to the world (sun-)
Present—why keep on as though your life still depended on the world

Past—you have been raised with Christ, remember that fact (sun-)
Present—keep on....
 Seeking things above where Christ is
 Thinking on things above, not earthly
 Reason: Past and present summarized (sun-)
Future—Anticipate the result
 Life is not "bios" but "zoa" (sun-)

****3:5-17, Solution: the "Christ" life**

Christ is all, and is in all, 11
Things to put off, 5-10
Things to put on, 12-17

***3:18-4:6, Ministry: theirs, Paul's, and other Christians [including typical concluding matters]**

The Christ life in relationships, 3:18-4:1
The Christ life in behavior, 4:2-6
The Christ life exhibited by many, greetings, 4:7-18