

NEW LIFE WITH CHRIST
 The Book of Colossians
 GOSPEL GRATITUDE (1:1-8)

1

PAUL'S LETTER TO THE COLOSSIANS
 WHO DIED FOR HUMAN SINNERS? KISSING UNTOUCHED BY THE LOVING & LOVINGLY KISS OF JESUS.
 NEW! CREATOR ARRIVED! GARDEN JESUS FEELS FROM THE BLOOD.

1:1-23 THE EXALTED MESSIAH

THE MESSAGE
 WE THANK GOD FOR YOUR FAITH, LOVE, and HOPE.

THE CHALLENGE
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JESUS IS LORD OF THE HOUSE

CONCLUSION
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2

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3

GOSPEL GRATITUDE (1:1-5)

- *Greetings from:* Paul and Timothy
 - *To:* those set apart, faithful siblings, located in Colossae
 - *Blessing:* grace and peace from God *our Father*
- Paul's *Gratitude* (for a church he did not start and had not met)
 - ...was expressed in his *prayers* for them
 - ...was directed toward God for *His work* in them
 - Their **faith** in Christ/Messiah Jesus
 - Their **love** for all the ones set apart by God for God
 - Their **hope** for heavenly inheritance which will come in the future
 - A *new Genesis family:* worldwide fruitfulness and multiplication
- This was all brought about by Epaphras, a *faithful servant* delivering the good news of Jesus and His Kingdom

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RESPONSE

- Notice the identifying *characteristics* of God's family: faith, love, hope
- Paul is an "older brother" example of *identifying* the evidence of God's grace in others, *thanking* God for it, and *commending* those in whom it is seen
- Paul is an example to us of a *joyful and thankful servant* in the hard circumstances and disappointments of the work of the church
- This passage is a reminder of just *who* we are and *what* we have in Jesus
- This passage reminds us of our privileged role of *participation* in delivering this good news to others
- An *invitation:* to those of you outside the Kingdom, the family of God

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