

Knowing Christ

A Study of Colossians

The Preeminence of Christ

Lesson 11

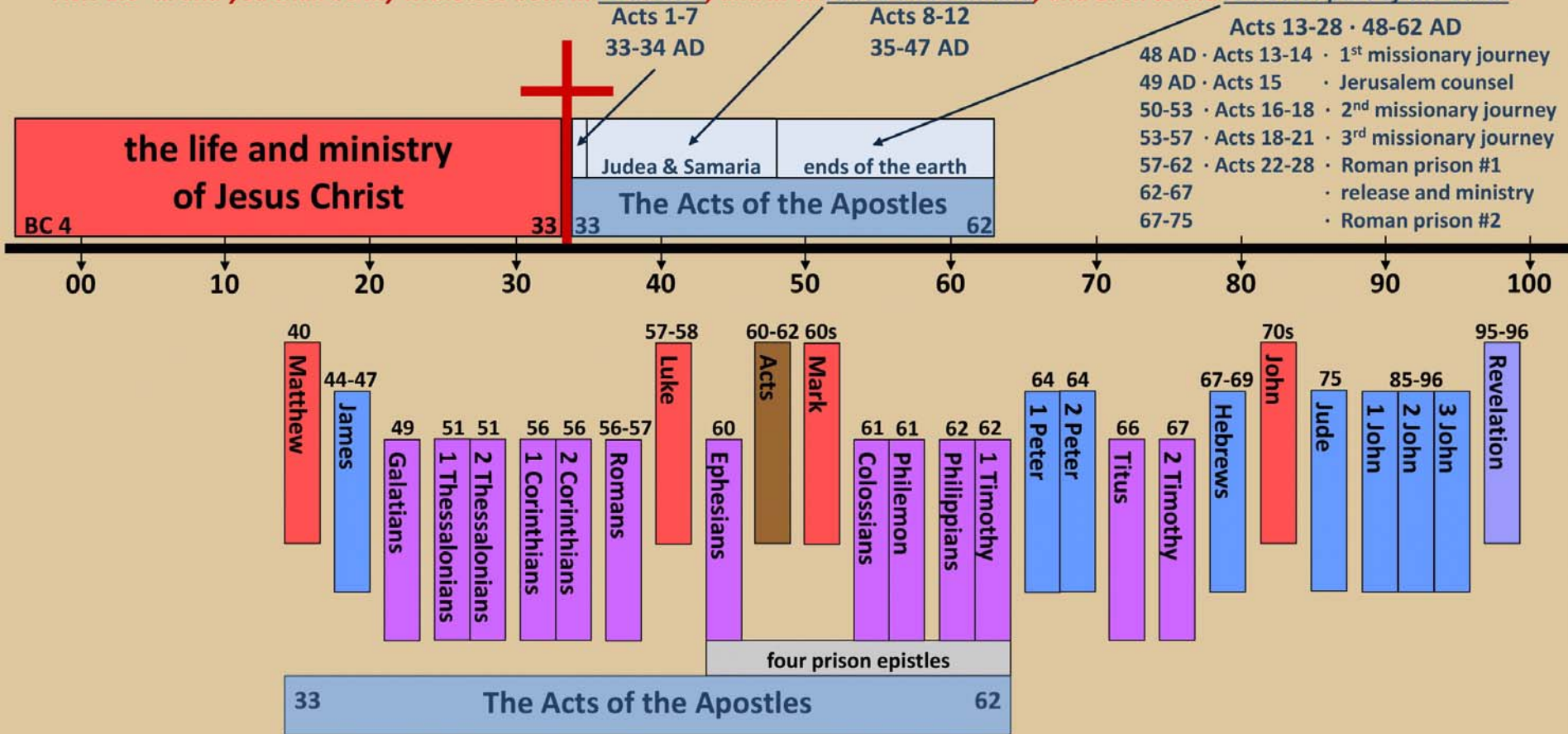
Colossians 1

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School

March 15, 2020

The Development of the New Testament

Acts 1:8 "... and you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."



Ephesians and Colossians Compared

- ▶ Paul claims apostleship
- ▶ Each deals with a fundamental doctrine of the Christian faith
- ▶ The core messages are different
 - Ephesians – the mystery and the administration of the mystery
 - Colossians – the pressure to turn away from the mystery
- ▶ The common structure of both epistles
 - A message to saints and faithful brethren in Christ Jesus
 - A review of the work of salvation
 - A presentation of the main issue
 - A demonstration of the outcome of the work of salvation in the believer

Colossians

Christ, our exalted Savior		prison epistle 60-62	
①	②	③	④
the supremacy of Christ		the sufficiency of Christ	
foundation in Christ	faithfulness to Christ	fullness in Christ	
<p>1-2 salutation in Christ</p> <p>3-8 thanksgiving to God</p> <p>9-12 intercession to God</p> <p>15-23 the preeminence of Christ</p> <p>24-29 the Gentile mystery: <i><u>"Christ in you, the hope of glory"</u></i></p>	<p>1-5 stability of faith in Christ</p> <p>6-7 <i><u>"walk in Christ!"</u></i></p> <p>8-15 standing firm in the victory in Christ</p> <p>16-19 holding firm to the substance of Christ</p> <p>20-23 submitting only to the person of Christ</p>	<p>1-4 <i><u>"set your mind on Christ!"</u></i></p> <p>5-11 attend to personal holiness in Christ <i><u>"Christ is all, and in all."</u></i></p> <p>12-17 attend to corporate harmony in Christ</p> <p>18-4:1 attend to outward behavior in Christ</p>	<p>2-6 devotion to prayer, conduct with wisdom, speech with grace</p> <p>7-9 coming information</p> <p>10-15 sent greetings</p> <p>16-18 final words</p>

Outline of Colossians

- ▶ Introduction (1:1-2)
- ▶ The Gospel Message (1:3-2:7)
- ▶ The Danger Confronting the Colossian Church (2:8-3:4)
- ▶ The Result of the Gospel Message in the Life of a Believer (3:5-4:18)

The Preeminence of Christ (Colossians 1)

- ▶ Introduction (1:1-2)
- ▶ The testimony of the Colossian Church (1:3-8)
- ▶ Paul's prayer for the Colossian Church (1:9-14)
- ▶ Paul's teaches about Christ (1:15-23)
- ▶ Paul's apostleship (1:24-29)

Introduction (1:1-2)

- ▶ Paul an apostle of Jesus Christ
- ▶ To the saints and faithful brethren
- ▶ Grace and peace

The Colossian Believers (1:3-8)

- ▶ Thanksgiving to God
- ▶ Faith in Christ Jesus
- ▶ Love for the saints
- ▶ Hope laid up for them in heaven
- ▶ The word of truth of the Gospel
- ▶ Fruitfulness
- ▶ Epaphras commended

Paul's Prayer for the Saints (1:9-14)

- ▶ An appeal to God
- ▶ To be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and understanding
- ▶ A walk worthy of the Lord
 - Fruitful
 - Increasing in the knowledge of God
 - Strengthened by His power
 - Steadfast with joyful patience
- ▶ Thanksgiving to God the Father

A Lesson on Christology (1:15-23)

- ▶ Christ's Person (1:15-20)
 - Image of the invisible God
 - Firstborn of all creation
 - Creator of all things
 - Possessor of heaven and earth
 - Before all things – preeminent
 - Firstborn from the dead
 - All the fullness of God in Him
 - Savior through the Cross

A Lesson on Christology (1:15-23)

- ▶ Christ's Work (1:21-23)
 - His subjects – alienated, hostile, evil
 - Christ reconciled all things to God
 - Christ presents us holy and blameless and without reproach before the Father
 - His subjects – continue in the faith

Paul the Apostle (1:24-29)

- ▶ Paul, an apostle or steward of the mystery
- ▶ The sufferings of Christ in Paul
- ▶ Paul's ministry – teaching “Christ in you, the hope of glory”
- ▶ Paul's method – proclaiming, admonishing, laboring, striving

The Preeminence of Christ

- ▶ The key to the Christian message is Christ
- ▶ The need to be grounded and growing in the truth
- ▶ Complete in Christ