



# THE Vision

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## COLOSSIANS: THE GLORY OF CHRIST

**A. Author:** Paul

**B. Background:** Paul, writing again from prison, directed his letter to the Christians in Colossae to emphasize the pre-eminence of Christ in all things.

**C. Theme:** Jesus Christ is the single most important person and subject in life, theology, and ministry.

**D. Outline:**

**a. Introduction (1:1-2)**

**b. The Preeminence of Christ in Theology (1:3-3:4)**

1. Paul's Thanksgiving and Prayer for the Colossians (1:3-23)
  - Thanksgiving (1:3-8)
  - Prayer (1:9-14)
  - The "Christ Hymn" (1:15-20)
  - The Salvation of the Colossians (1:21-23)
2. Paul's Place in Christ's Kingdom (1:24-2:7)
  - His ministry to the churches (1:24-29)
  - His ministry to the Colossians (2:1-7)
3. Paul's Defense of the Faith (2:8-3:4)
  - Against the theological threat (2:8-19)
  - Against the practical threat (2:20-3:4)

**c. The Preeminence of Christ in Christian Living (3:5-4:6)**

1. Order in the Christian Life and the Church (3:5-4:1)
  - The New Person (3:5-17)
  - Family Relationships (3:18-4:1)

Prayerful Cooperation in Ministry (4:2-6)

Prayer (4:2-4)

Wisdom (4:5)

Careful Communication (4:6)

**d. Final Matters (4:7-18)**

Those who journeyed to the churches (4:7-9)

Those who sent greetings (4:10-14)

Those to whom greetings are sent (4:15-17)

Final Greeting from Paul (4:18)

**E. Real Life Lessons from 2 Corinthians**

1. Jesus Christ is preeminent over everything.
2. We must guard ourselves against theological errors that threaten the preeminence of Christ.
3. We must guard ourselves against daily living that threatens the preeminence of Christ.
4. Both the Christian Life and Church should be ordered.
5. We should have a life of prayer and wisdom that impacts the world.

