

Colossians

Blessed Assurance *"God's Letter...Addressed to You"*

INTRO: *Today we begin a study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the church in Colossae. Who was Paul? To whom was he writing, and why? What should 21st century Christians do with this 1st century epistle?*

I. God wrote _____ through His _____ (1:1).

God is the ultimate author of Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16) but He used human authors like Paul (Cf. 2 Peter 1:21-22).

II. God's letters were written to _____ for their _____ and _____ (1:2a).

The Colossian Christians were encouraged to "stay the course" and instructed to live life in the "heavenlies" where their hope was secure.

III. Joyfully _____ God's inspired *encouragement* and *instruction* in Paul's letter to the _____

(1:2b). *Try reading through the entire letter each week before coming to Church, and commit to responding in three ways.*

A. Feel God's _____. *He is concerned enough to give us what is needed.*

B. Hear God's _____. *These are **His** words. and He communicates what is best for us!*

C. Obey God's _____. *God's **grace** and **peace** provide the spiritual environment needed.*