

Colossians

Blessed Assurance "Grateful for the Gospel"

INTRO: *Paul continued to follow the conventional format of 1st century letters by offering a thanksgiving to God for His work on behalf of his readers. But his thanksgiving centers on the **Gospel!***

I. Christians have been _____ through the _____.

*Because of God's **grace** and **peace** (v.2), Christians are **saints** (holy ones), set apart for God's purpose. The **Gospel** is the good news of forgiveness of sin through faith in Jesus' sacrifice on Calvary's cross.*

II. Christians may under appreciate the _____ by failing to express the magnitude of _____ it

deserves. *There are many reasons including confusion, confliction, and callousness.*

III. Christian, be _____ for the _____ (1:3-8).

There are three things for which Paul expressed his gratitude for the Gospel. Are we grateful for the Gospel?

A. The Gospel's _____. *The reception of the Gospel is cause for celebration (cf. Luke 15:10).*

B. The Gospel's _____. *The Church started small but has grown large as Jesus predicted (Matt. 13:31-33).*

C. The Gospel's _____. *Epaphras carried the Gospel to Colossae. God ordained that the Gospel be communicated by Jesus' disciples (Cf. Rom. 10:15-17; 2 Cor. 4:7-10).*