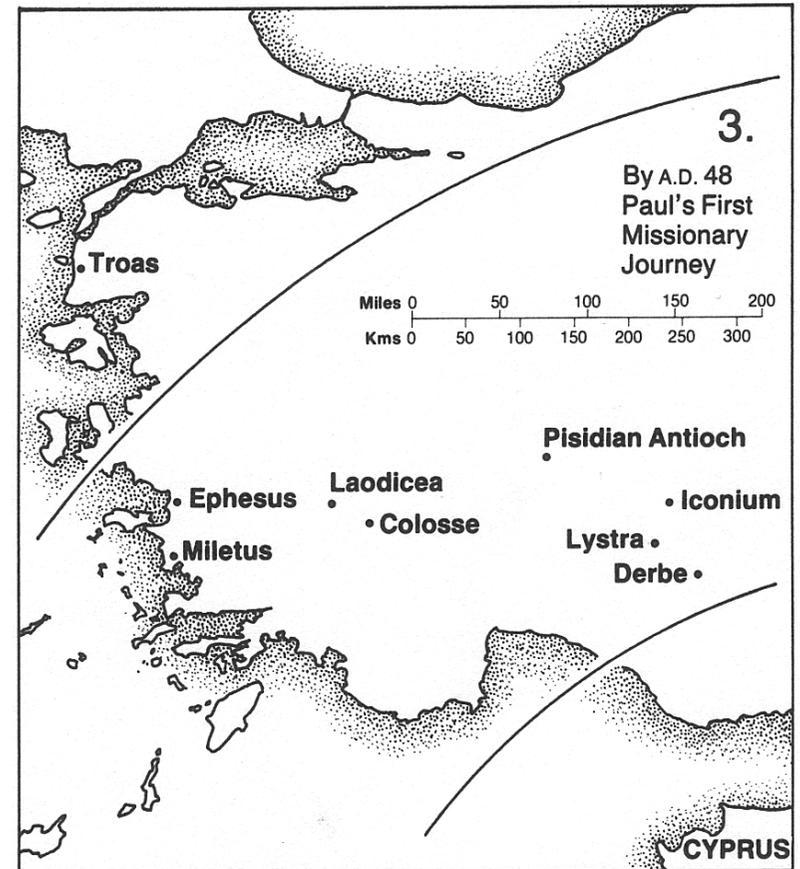
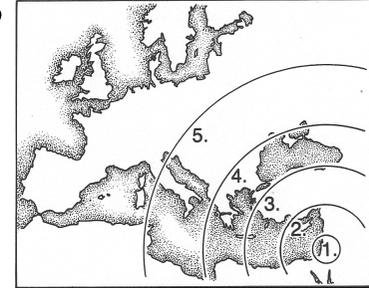


Colossians



COLOSSIANS

Paul wrote Colossians around 60-61AD from prison, probably in Rome (Acts 28:16-31). Colosse is in Asia Minor (Turkey) and Epaphras took the gospel there.

CHAPTER 1

v3-6 For what strengths are the Colossians commended?

v5 Paul indicates that they are motivated by “Hope”. How does that relate to the Colossians’ strengths?

V9 What is “this reason” that Paul mentions?
For what does he pray?

V10 To what end does he pray?

V11 For what else does he pray?

V12-14 For what do we have to be thankful as we pray?

V22 Do you think this is justifying slavery?

V22-25 What is Paul ultimately trying to achieve by these instruction?

What relevance do they still have for us?

4:1 What difference should remembering that we have a master in heaven make?

CHAPTER 4

V2-6 What do these verses tell us about what our attitude should be to proclaiming the gospel and assisting others in doing so?

V7-9 What encouragement might Tychicus and Onesimus have brought to the Colossians?

V12-13 Why do think Epaphras “is always wrestling in prayer” for them?

What is his desire?

Who do you have responsibilities towards when it comes to prayer?

A reading of PHILEMON gives reference to some of the characters mentioned in Colossians 4.

V15 What is the peace of Christ?

V16 What is the word of Christ, and how may it dwell in us richly?

V17 Think back over yesterday. What did you do during the day? What difference does it make to do those things in the name of the Lord Jesus?

And how does that lead to thanks?

V18 What does it mean for a wife to submit to her husband? Is this still appropriate in our culture? (Give reasons)

V19 What does it mean in practice for a husband to love his wife?

V20 Until what age does a child have to be obedient to parents?

V21 How may we embitter our children?

V15-20 What does these descriptions of Christ mean? (When, why and how?)

Image of the invisible God

Firstborn of all creation

In him...

Through him...

For him... all things were created

In him all things hold together

He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead

To have first place in everything

In him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell

To reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven

V20-22 What was the aim of Christ's death?

V23 What is the condition on that aim being fulfilled?

V24 Why does Paul rejoice in his suffering?
Was Christ's suffering deficient?
How can Paul complete Christ's suffering?

V26- What is the mystery now revealed and proclaimed by Paul?

V29 What is the aim of Paul's struggles, his priority?

Looking back over chapter one, do you see any challenges to your own priorities? What can you learn from Paul?

CHAPTER 2

V1-5 What does Paul want for his readers?

Where are wisdom and knowledge to be found?

What can a grasp of these things (see also v6-7) guard against (v4)?

V8 What are the deceptions that can lead Christians astray?

V9-15 What errors may Paul be trying to correct in these verses?

V16-23 What further errors may he be addressing here?

What are some of the common misconceptions that Christians fall into these days concerning the faith?

In what ways may we help people to understand the truth?

How may we guard against falling into error ourselves?

CHAPTER 3

V1-2 What are the "things above" that we are to set our minds on?

V3 In what way have we died, and what does it mean that our life is "hidden with Christ in God"? (See also v4)

V5-10 How can we put to death what is earthly?
In what practical ways can this be done?

V11 What does this renewal result in?

What does it mean for our church?

V12-14 With what qualities are we to clothe ourselves?