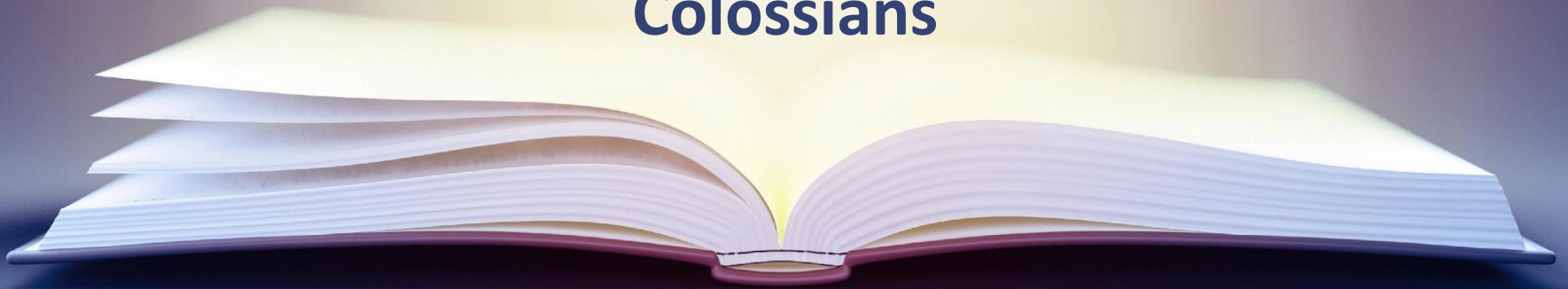


# BIBLICAL A STUDY THROUGH THE SCROLLS OF SCRIPTURE REVIEW

**Colossians**



## Purpose of New Testament

- Reveal God



- Point to Jesus



## Our Purpose

- Increase Biblical literacy



- Respond in faith and obey



# Colossians

Colossae was a city in Anatolia (Turkey) and has been abandoned for 1000 years.

Paul is the author of this letter.

Paul never visited Colossae.

Paul wrote it during his imprisonment at Rome. (Colossians 4:18)

# Colossians

Epaphras is a local leader of Colossian church. (Colossians 1:7; 4:12)

Travels over 900 miles to see Paul in Rome.

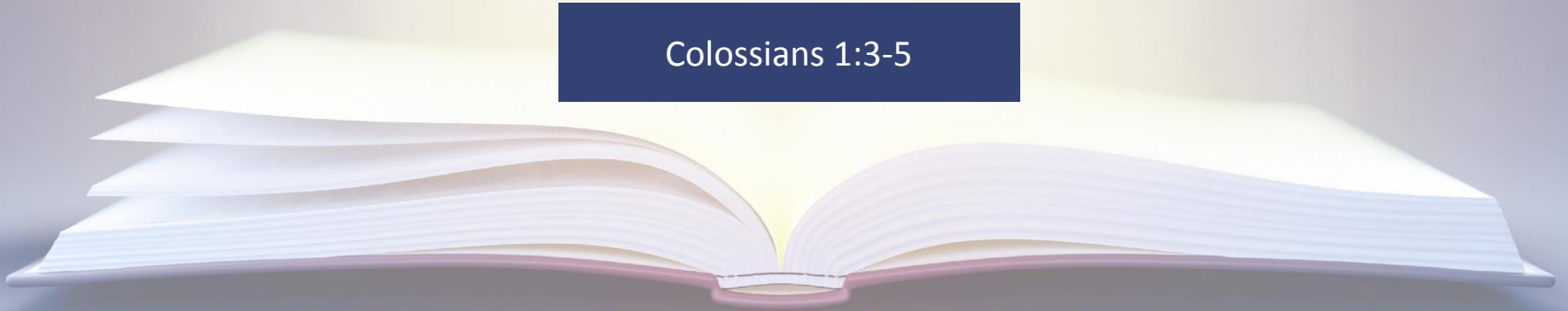
# Colossians





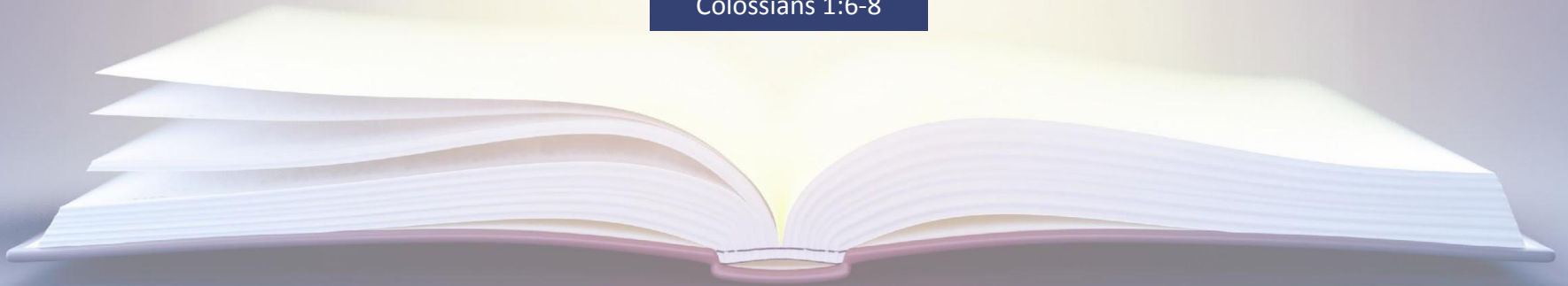
3 We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, 4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; 5 because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel,

Colossians 1:3-5



6 which has come to you, as it has also in all the world,  
and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since  
the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth; 7  
as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow  
servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your  
behalf, 8 who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.

Colossians 1:6-8



# Colossians

The audience: The Colossian church

Described as faithful (1:3)

Praised for faith in Christ and love for the saints (1:4)

Concerns:

Philosophy (2:8)

Legalistic Observance of OT festivals (2:16)

Worship of angels (2:17)

Self-made religions (2:23)



# Colossians

Paul and Epaphras' response to the Colossian heresy

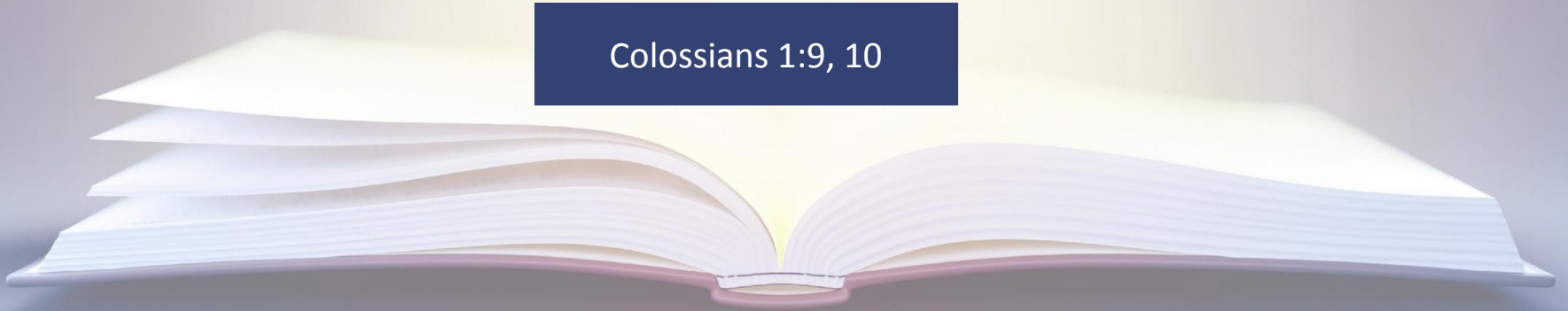
Prayer

Epistle

Sending

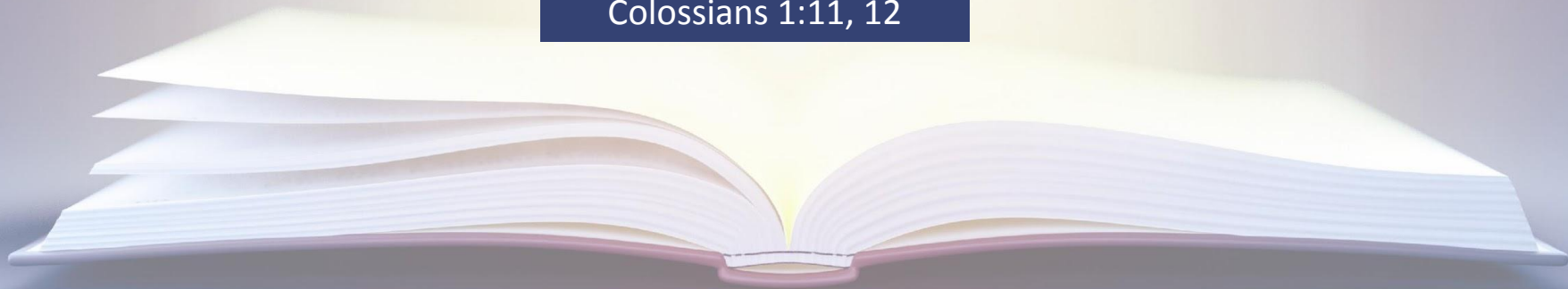
9 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Colossians 1:9, 10



11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; 12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

Colossians 1:11, 12



# Colossians

Paul's prayer for the Colossians (1:9-12)

(v. 9)

To have a deeper knowledge of the will of God.

(v. 10)

To walk worthy of the Lord.

To walk fully pleasing God

To be fruitful in every good work

To be increasing in the knowledge of God

(v. 11)

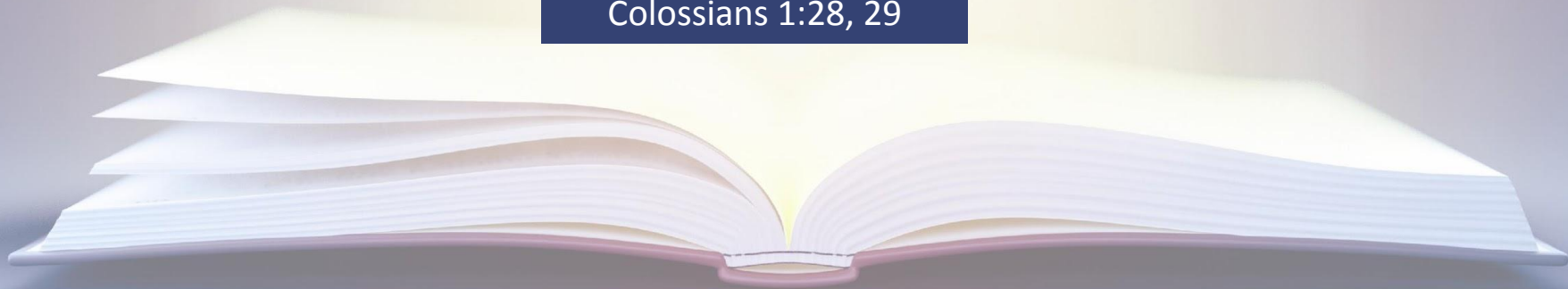
To be strengthened with all might according to God's power for long suffering with joy

(v. 12)

Giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the light.

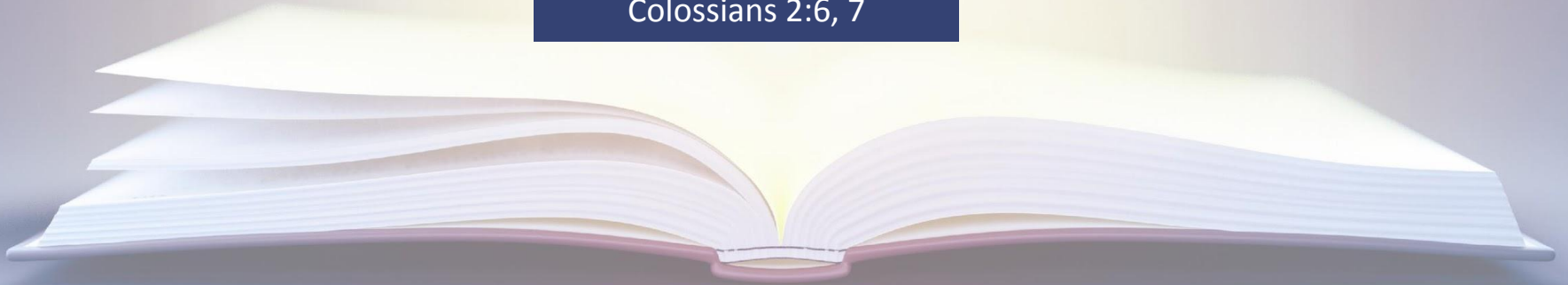
28 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. 29 To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

Colossians 1:28, 29



6 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord,  
so walk in Him, 7 rooted and built up in Him and  
established in the faith, as you have been taught,  
abounding in it with thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:6, 7





# Colossians

Teaching on Christ and the gospel: (1:13-23; 2:11-15; 3:1-4)

Colossians already Christian? (1:4-7)

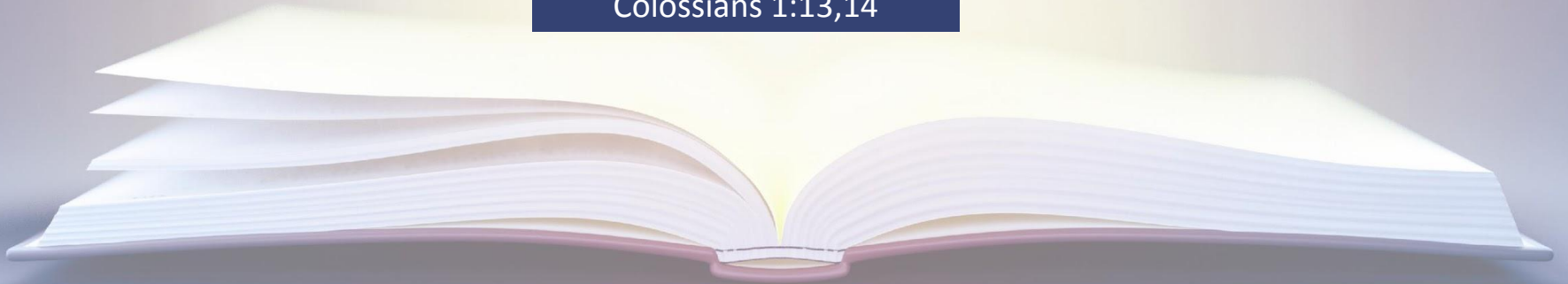
No one ever outgrows the gospel.

No one ever outgrows Christ.

Paul addressing the root problem of heresy.

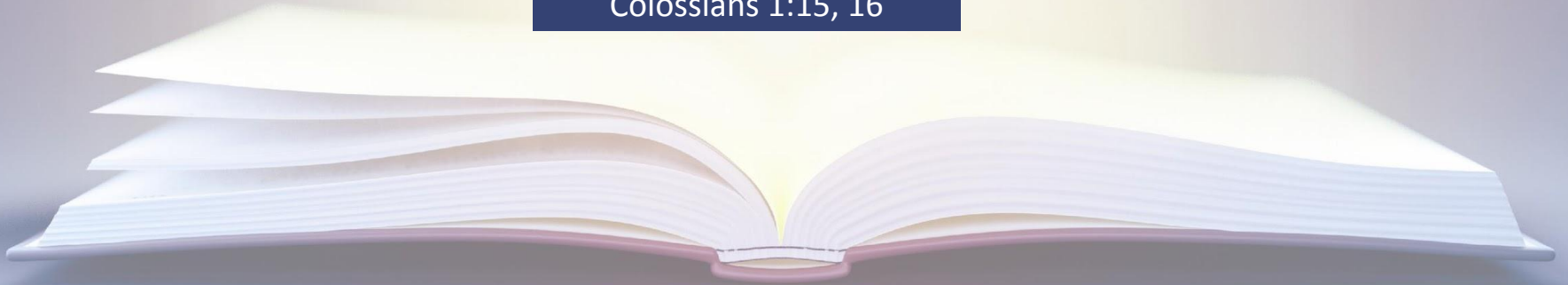
13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:13,14



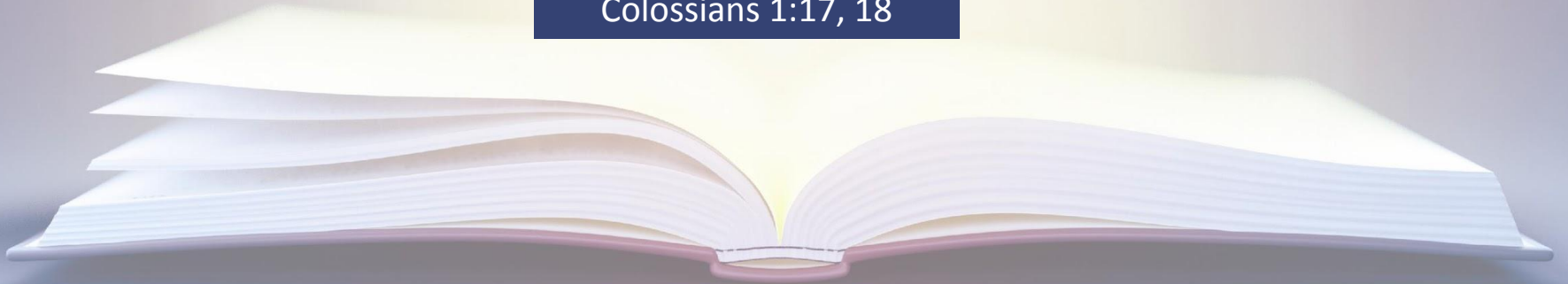
15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

Colossians 1:15, 16



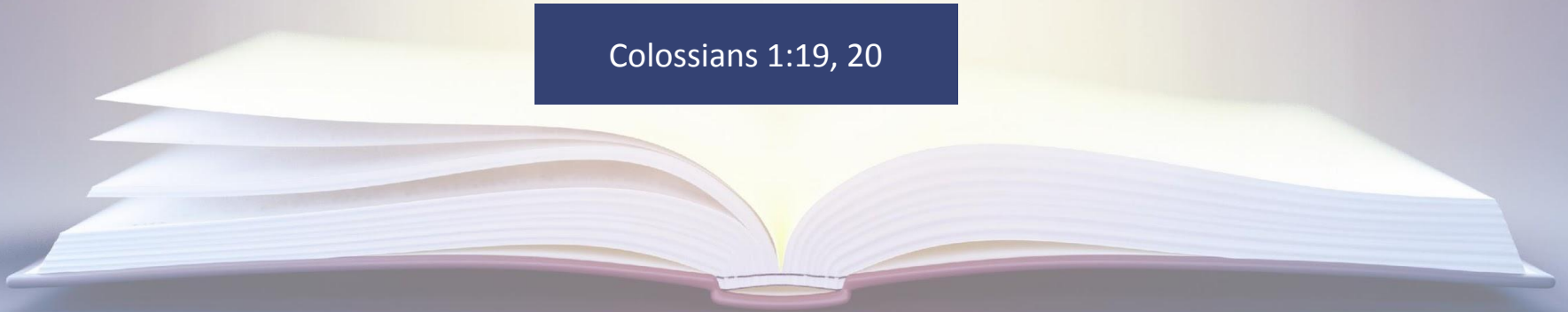
17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Colossians 1:17, 18



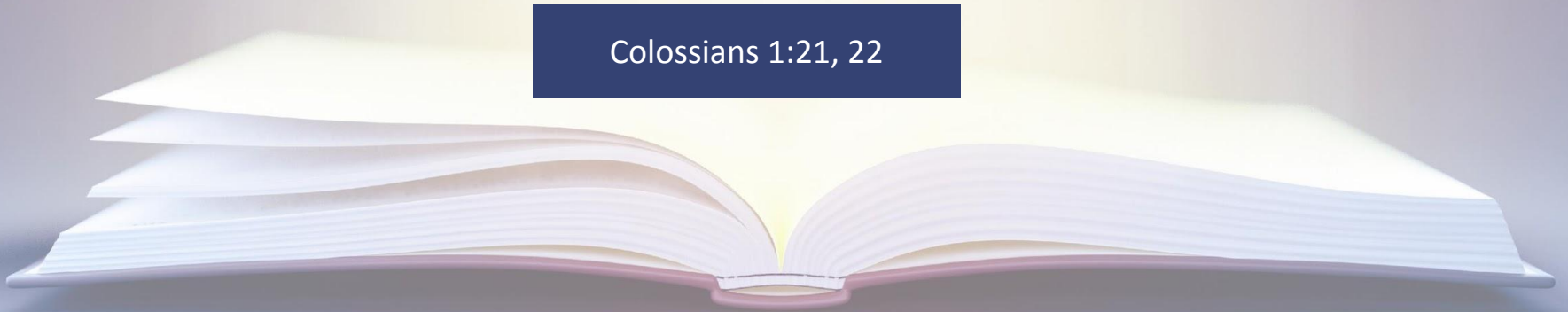
19 For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness  
should dwell, 20 and by Him to reconcile all things to  
Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in  
heaven, having made peace through the blood of His  
cross.

Colossians 1:19, 20



21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in  
your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled  
22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you  
holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—

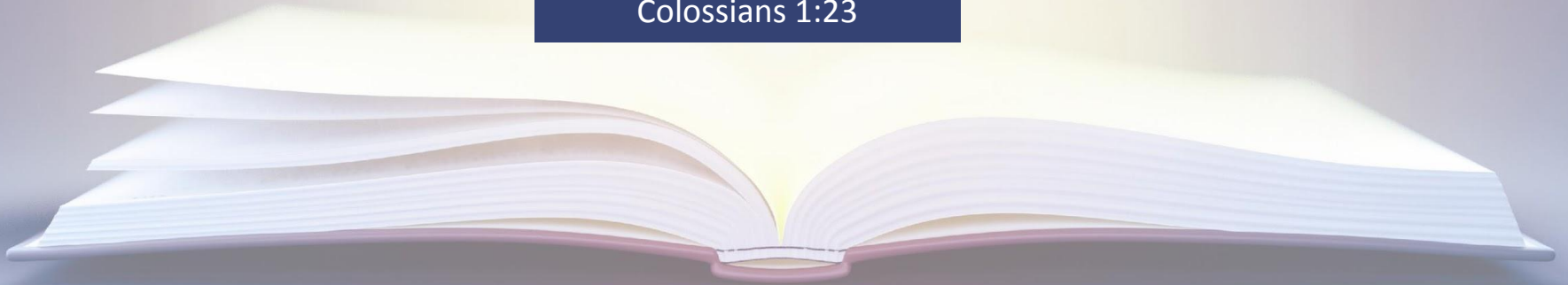
Colossians 1:21, 22





23 if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Colossians 1:23



# Colossians

Warning against heresy

(2:8-10) Philosophy cheating the Colossians.

- What is cheating us of deeper intimacy with Christ?

(2:16-17) OT festivals meant to magnify Christ, not replace.

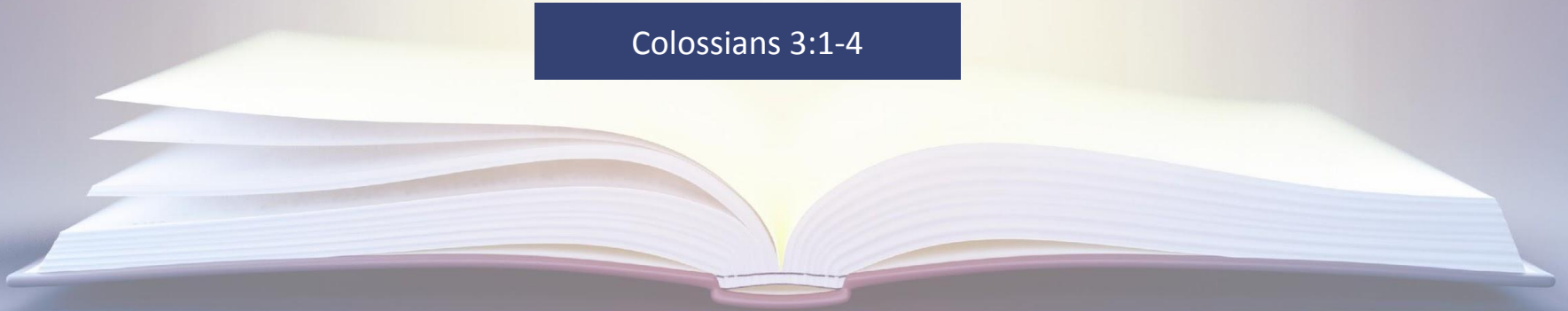
(2:18-19) Praying to angels instead of Christ.

(2:20-23) Self-made religion.

- What spiritual actions are we using to replace Christ instead of pursuing intimacy with Him?

“1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Colossians 3:1-4



# Colossians

## Moral Teachings

Paul uses a proper understanding of Christ and the gospel to correct the Colossians theology as well as their behavior.

(3:5) “Therefore put to death the members which are on earth” The Colossians are given a list of behaviors to reject.

(3:12) The Colossians are given a list of virtues to adopt.

(3:17) Everything is to be done in the name of Christ.

(3:18-4:1) Family relations, work relations

# Colossians

## Final Greetings

(v. 2-4) Paul commands the Colossians to pray

(v. 5-6) to be gentle and gracious in their speech.

(v. 7-9) He is sending Tychicus and Onesimus to bring the letter back to Colossae, but Epaphras stays in Rome, where he is later imprisoned (Philemon 23).

Paul exhorts the various members of the Colossian church and tells them to pass the letter to the other churches in the area (Laodicea).

Paul writes “Grace be with you. Amen.”

# Colossians

Application: Message to the audience

Heresy was pulling the Colossians away from Christ.

What is cheating us of a deeper intimacy with Christ?

What spiritual actions are we using to replace Christ instead of pursuing intimacy with Him?

Colossians 3:17 Is there a part of our life undevoted or unchanged by Him?



# Colossians

Application: Example of the authors

Prayer - Are we praying for others?

Desire - Do we desire others sanctification?

Christ's Desire (1:21-22) To see the church sanctified

Paul's Response (1:28) To present everyone perfect in Christ.

Epaphras Response (4:12) That the Colossians would stand complete in all the will of God.

# Colossians

Application: Example of the authors

Prayer - Are we praying for others?

Desire - Do we desire others' sanctification?

Christ's Desire (1:21-22) To see the church sanctified

Our prayer? Our desire? Our response?

Created through Him and For Him. What else?