

# AMP' d

## "Who's Playing Lead in Your Life?"

Introduction to Colossians

Col.1-3; 3:11

### [Introduction]

No other epistle is as Christ centric as this one. Whether you read Colossians casually or read it for hours, every encounter with the text brings on face to face with the LORD.

Epistle: public communication, more official, written to a group. They were read publicly & were meant to be circulated to the surrounding churches.

### [History]

The city's location made it a great city. It prospered from ranching & industry. Paul wrote this epistle to the Church of Colossae, while he was imprisoned in Rome. There is no record (in Acts or otherwise) of the establishment of this church. Although it was a hundred miles from Ephesus, Colossae was probably evangelized during Paul's extended stay. (Acts 19:10)

### [occasion]

As mentioned before (Ephesians: Occasion), the arrival of Epaphras to Rome brought Paul news about many churches. Apparently, Colossae had some heretical teachers. Although difficult to ascertain, the "Colossian Heresy" consisted of three elements:

Colossian Heresy:

- (a) Jewish Element: legalism; observance of holy days.
- (b) Pagan Element: early Gnosticism; the belief that all physical things were evil; salvation came through knowledge; worship of many gods.
- (c) Christian Element: really more a "mask" than a true element; this heresy did not deny Christ, but it dethroned Him.

### [purpose]

Paul wrote Colossians to:

- (a) Express his interest in the Church
- (b) To warn them against returning to their old ways; and
- (c) To refute the so-called Colossian Heresy.

### Insight :

Paul's letters are arranged largest to smallest in the Bible. The chronological order would be: Galatians, 1&2 Thess., 1&2 Cor., Romans, Philemon, Colossians, Ephesians, 1 Tim., Titus, & 2 Tim.

### [author]

Paul was Saul. He was a tent maker and a Roman Citizen. He was familiar with the Hellenistic language, culture & govt.

Colossians 3:11 "Christ is All, and is in All."

Theme: Col. 3:11

Who's playing lead in your life?

Sometimes we take the lead. Why? We want to be noticed. We like being in control.

Sometimes our friends take the lead. Why? They tell us how to live or what to do.

Money? Popularity? Sex?

-If the wrong person is playing lead it can mess you up.// The music you listen to says a lot about you.

**Life is not about you.**

He created you, set you free, & forgave you, he is the image of God & the first born of all creation, he preceded all things & designed all things and holds all things together. In short he is all... and is in all.

**Let God have control of your life**

And that means he wants to be in all you say, do or think.

Christ is A-L-L. We want him to be a part of our life, but not all. God isn't a separate part of your life.

Is Christ in everything you do? He wants to be a part of everything. God isn't a separate part of your life. He is your life. He is the dresser not just the drawer.

Is Christ what really matters in your life? Is it popularity? Money? Sex? Christ has to be thread in everything you do.

Why let God take the lead?

**1. He is always in tune.**

**2. He wrote the song.**

**3. He never misses a note.**

**4. It's all about HIM.**

**Response:**

-If you knew how much time you had left, what would you do different?

-How has God invited you into His story this week?

-Is life all about you?

**Recommended Reading:**

*Don't waste Your Life* – John Piper

*Desiring God* – John Piper