

Colossians 1:1-5 Lesson one Introduction/Praise and prayer <https://youtu.be/KlyeyA9oWJ0>

Introduction:

The epistle to the Colossians is one of the most important books for believers to study. In it we get a thorough knowledge of Yeshua the messiah.

The overall theme of the epistle of Colossians is The **preeminence** of Messiah. He is above all else, he is in all things, he created all things and he hold all things together.

There is **none** like him. There **has never been** anyone like him and there never will be anyone like him. He is the **unique** son of Yahweh the El of the universe.

John 3:16 CJB

(16) "For God so loved the world that he gave his **only and unique Son**, so that everyone who trusts in him may have **eternal life**, instead of being utterly destroyed.

Yahweh sent Yeshua, His Son to die for us! **Every person** who believes on Yeshua is saved and is a part of His kingdom.

All believers everywhere, **are united** with Messiah in a wonderful living relationship!

The congregation today desperately needs the message that Paul sent to the congregation at Colosse just as they needed it back in **A.D. 60** when Paul wrote it. We are facings some of the **same issues** that the believers in Colosse faced.

Paul divides this letter into two sections

1. **What Elohim has done** (chapters 1-2)
2. **what believers are obligated to do in gratitude** (chapters 3-4).

Often, I fine that there is **no problem** for believer, in giving the Lord **a place** of eminence. But **many of us do** not give him **full control**. we don't give him his **rightful** place of preeminence in our lives. We do not place him over all other things.

Yahweh was **adamant** in saying "**You are to have no other gods before me.**" However, we dance around that by saying "that was before Messiah" we don't have

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to obey that now. That is the old covenant and has been done away with”.

Whether we are under the old covenant or the new covenant, we are still required to place messiah above **everything** or **everyone** in our lives.

Everything has been placed **under Messiah feet**, by his father, and **every** knee is required to bow before him.

Colossians 1:1-2 CJB

(1) **From:** Sha'ul, by God's will an apostle of the Messiah Yeshua, and brother Timothy

(2) **To:** God's people **in Colosse, faithful brothers** in the Messiah: **Grace to you and shalom from God our Father.**

Colosse was **one of three** cities located about **120** miles east of Ephesus. The other two cities were **Laodicea and Hierapolis** (Col. 4:13, 16).

There was a **large Jewish colony** in Colossae, and because it was a trade route, there was also a constant **stream of new ideas and doctrines from the East.**

There were **All kinds** of philosophies there in **Colosse.**

Which had **infiltrated** the congregation.

There were **false teachers** who were teaching a combination of: **Jewish legalism, Oriental philosophy, pagan astrology, mysticism, syncretism** [mixture of faith], and **Gnosticism.**

Gnosticism (NOS-ti-cism). comes from the Greek word *gnosis* (KNOW-sis) which means "to know." (An **agnostic** is one who does **not** know.)

The Gnostics were the people who taught **salvation** comes through knowledge of the divine. Gnostics are **"those** who are oriented toward knowledge and understanding – or perception and learning. The Gnostic teaches there is no sin, only **ignorant.** They were the **"spiritual ari-stocra-cy"** in the Assembly. The way to salvation comes through knowledge rather than Messiah

(3) Whenever **we pray**, we always give thanks **for you to God**, the Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

That is why Paul wrote this epistle. He needed to correct this and other false perverted legalistic teaching in the congregation and to get the congregation back on the straight and narrow way. The congregation needed to **be reminded that Yeshua** is above all other gods and intellectual knowledge, and is the only way to the father.

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It seems obvious by what Paul said in this letter that he had not been to Colosse in person. He **did not** establish this congregation. It is **believed** that **Epaphras** was one of the key founders of the church in Colossae. Paul said in Col 1:7 they heard the good news from **Epaphras**.

Epaphras came to faith in messiah during Paul's ministry in Ephesus. And went home and started a church.

This is a good lesson for believers today.

Elohim does not **always** need an **apostle**, or **pastor** of a "**full-time evangelist**" to get **a ministry established**. One does not need a college degree to preach the good news of the kingdom of Elohim.

The **Holy Spirit** will **equip** those whose hearts are willing.

Remember, in Acts 4:13.

Peter and John preached, and **five thousand** men believed and saved.

Those learned scholars, who tried to stop them, were amazed by what they saw because they were **laymen with no training**.

It was noted that they were **all unlearned men**. These unlearned men turned their world upside down.

[Acts 4:13 TLV](#)

(13) Now when they saw the **boldness of Peter and John** and figured out they were laymen without training, they were amazed. They began to realize that these men had been **with Yeshua**.

That is all you need. You need to come to Yeshua by faith, believe in him, be filled with the Holy Spirit, make him Lord of your life, and he will work through you to bring others into his kingdom.

Yahweh doesn't need a **big congregation** or an **elaborate building**. He just needs someone who is willing to be obedient to the Holy Spirit.

Here were **a man**, who heard the **Good news** of the Messiah and were used of Elohim to start ministries in his **city**.

The **Colossian** assembly was **predominantly Gentile** in its membership. The sins that Paul named in **Col. 3:5-9** were commonly associated with the Gentiles, and his statement in **Col. 1:25-29** is further proof because Paul had been called to preach the good news to the gentiles.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

Colossians 1:2-4 CJB

(2) **To:** God's people **in Colosse**, faithful brothers in the Messiah: **Grace to you and shalom from God our Father.**

(3) Whenever **we pray**, we always give thanks **for you to God**, the Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

(4) For we **have heard** of your **trust** in the **Messiah Yeshua** and of **the love** you have for **all God's people.**

How often do you pray for believers? How often do you thank the Lord for the great work other or doing in the kingdom?

Like Paul, we should always pray for the **body of Messiah**

As believers, we are all members of one **body** (1 Cor. 12:12-13).

If one member of the body is **strengthened**, this helps to strengthen the **entire body**. If one congregation experiences a **revival** touch from Elohim, it will help **all the congregations.**

However, Our prayer of sometime **self-centered.**

*Lord, bless me my wife, my son, my daughter. Us **four** and no more.*

We are admonished through scripture to **pray for one another.** Yahweh expects us to stand in the gap and **intercede** for one another.

He would not have poured out his fury on Israel, if he had **found one** righteous person to intercede for them.

Ezekiel 22:30-31 CJB

(30) " 'I sought for a man among them who could build a barricade or stand in the break to oppose me on behalf of the land, so that I would not destroy it; **but I found no one.**

(31) Therefore I am pouring out my fury on them, consuming them with the fire of my rage, bringing their own ways on their own heads,' says Yahweh Elohim."

Paul continually pray for the Colossian believers.

Colossians 1:4-5

(4) For we **have heard** of your **trust** in the Messiah Yeshua and of the **love** you have for all God's people.

(5) Both spring from the confident **hope** that you will receive what is stored up for you in heaven. You heard of this **earlier** in the message about the **truth.**

Paul highlighted **three things** he had heard about the believers had that caused him to pray for them.

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1. **Trust**
2. **Love**
3. **hope**

your **trust in the Messiah Yeshua**
love you have for all God's people.
hope that you will receive what is stored up for you in heaven

We will discuss these **three** things in our next lesson.

As we get further into this letter, you will see Yeshua as he really is and what he expects of those who believe in him.

Lesson one [Part two] Praise & Prayer Colossians 1:5-7

We are not doing a study of the book of Colosse. Though this epistle was written to the congregation there around AD 60, the message in this epistle is relevant for the congregation today. We need to be reminded of the preeminent of the Messiah. Yeshua is not just a prophet; he is not just another good person who performed miracles. Yeshua created all things and he holds all things together. Whether visible or invisible.

In addition to that his father elevated him to the highest place.

Paul said in-

Philippians 2:9-11 CJB

- (9) Therefore God raised him to the **highest place** and gave him the name above every name;
- (10) that in honor of the **name given Yeshua**, every knee will bow—in heaven, on earth and under the earth—
- (11) and every tongue will acknowledge that Yeshua the Messiah is Elohim—to the glory of God the Father.

Paul wrote to the congregation in Colosse because it had been **infiltrated** with false teachers that were trying to corrupt the foundational truth they had been taught, resulting in faith in the Messiah.

Among the different groups in the congregation in Colosse were the **Gnostics** who taught **salvation** comes through knowledge of the divine. This dangerous teaching threatens the foundation of the faith.

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So, in Paul's letter, after greeting the believers he said in verses 3-5:

Colossians 1:3-5

- (3) Whenever **we pray**, we always give thanks **for you to God**, the Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.
- (4) For we **have heard** of your **trust** in the Messiah Yeshua and of the **love** you have for all God's people.
- (5) Both spring from the confident **hope** that you will receive what is stored up for

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you in heaven. You heard of this **earlier** in the message about the **truth**.

Paul highlighted **three things** he had heard about the believers had that caused him to pray for them.

4. **Trust**

5. **Love**

6. **hope**

- your **trust in the Messiah Yeshua**
- **love you have for all God's people.**
- **hope that you will receive what is stored up for you in heaven**

Let us look at these three words.

TRUST:

peithó: (pi'-tho) meaning **to persuade**, urge, **to have confidence**.

peíthō is the **root** word of pístis, meaning "**faith**". to be persuaded of what is trustworthy.

(peíthō) involves "**obedience**, but it is properly the result of (Elohim's) persuasion".

Faith comes through hearing the good news.

The good news of Yeshua **death resurrection and assentions** had been preached to the Colossians. They believed what they were told, acted upon the word by placing **their faith in the messiah**.

It is important **what we believe** and who we believe in. The object of our faith determines the outcome. For example, you might sit in a **broken** chair believing it will hold you up but find yourself on the floor.

When Epaphras brought the good new about **eternal life** through faith in the messiah, the Colossians took hold of this hope, and placed their faith in the messiah, Yeshua. It changed their lives.

When we come to Elohim through faith in messiah, a change takes **place within** us. The spirit of Elohim gives us a new life. Paul says it this way.

2 Corinthians 5:17 CJB

(17) Therefore, if anyone is **united with the Messiah**, he is **a new creation**—the **old has passed**; look, what **has come is fresh and new!**

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Because of this newness, the believer could love other.

Colossian 1:4

(4) For we **have heard** of ...the **love** you have for all God's people.

There are different kinds of love. The word used by Paul here is the Greek word **agapaó**: (ag-ap-ah'-o)

LOVE:

agapaó: (ag-ap-ah'-o) **to love**

agapaó is an active word. **Not only does it mean take pleasure in**, or long for; It also means **actively** doing what *the Lord prefers*, by **His** power and direction.

agapáō ("loving") is always *defined* by Elohim – a "discriminating affection which involves **choice and selection**".

Agapaó Love **always** involves doing something for someone. Yahweh love the world and he sent his son to die for us. The son **loves** the word and volunteered to die for it. This love **requires** action.

It is not specifically state how those believers demonstrated this love for all god people, but we know they were doing something because Paul used the word **agapaó**. An action word,

Love requires **action**.

John instructs us **not** to love in words only. We must always put some feet and hands to this love when dealing with others.

1 John 3:18 CJB

(18) Children, let us love **not with words and talk**, but with **actions** and in reality!

Showing genuine love for our brothers and sisters is **proof** that we are children of Elohim.

Trust or faith in the Messiah always precedes love for people.

In other words, if there is **no love** in your heart for God's people, there is no Messiah in you.

1 John 3:10 TLV

(10) It is clear who are the children of God and who are the children of the devil by this—anyone who **does not act righteously or love** his brother is **not of God**.

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It doesn't get any clearer than that. Elohim is love.

Let me **ask you** today, in what way **do you** show love for others? **Is it all talk and no action?**

When it comes to **proving your love** by helping those in need, do you **pat** them on the back and **promise to pray** for them, and go home and forget them?

James speaks of this kind of response in—

James 2:15-17 CJB

(15) Suppose a brother or sister is **without clothes and daily food**,

(16) and someone says to him, "**Shalom! Keep warm and eat hearty!**" **without** giving him what he needs, what good does it do?

(17) Thus, faith by itself, **unaccompanied** by actions, **is dead**.

So, the Colossians had **faith** accompanied by their **action** in loving all Elohim's people.

But **notice** why Paul said they had this faith and love.

Colossians 1:5

(5) **Both** [faith and love] spring from the confident **hope** that you will receive what is stored up for you in heaven. You heard of this **earlier** in the message about the **truth**.

HOPE:

Greek word elpis (el-pece') meaning expectation, trust, confidence.

elpís (from **elpō**, "to anticipate") expectation of what is sure (certain);

The Colossians had **confidence** they would receive **eternal life** in Elohim's kingdom. They **were told** this life would come through the messiah, who was now in heaven with his father, but is coming back at some date in the future. Bring his reward with him.

Colossians 1:5

(5) ... You heard of this **earlier** in the message about the **truth**.

The Colossians had heard of the good new concerning **the grace God** in Yeshua from **Epaphras**.

(7) You learned it **from Epaphras**, our dear fellow-slave and a faithful worker for the Messiah on your behalf

(6) This Good News has made its presence **felt among you**, just as it is also being

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fruitful and multiplying throughout the world in the same way as it has among you since the day you heard **and understood the grace of God** as it really is.

It is important to understand the **grace** of Elohim. It is being taught in a way today that gives people a license to sin.

We are saved by **grace**. But to **experience Elohim's grace**, we must believe in Yeshua, the one who took our place in death on the cross. As being sacrificed on the altar. **The altar sacrifice was a life for a life principle**. This is the **same principle** applied to the messiah. A life for a life. Yeshua's life was sacrifice to give us life.

When the Colossians heard and **understood the grace of Elohim**, they put their **confidence** and expectation of receiving the reward Elohim had for them safely tucked away in heaven.

Because they had **this hope**, they placed their **trust** in the messiah. It is **through Yeshua Messiah** that we receive this grace which leads to eternal life as citizens in Elohim kingdom.

What about you today. **You have heard the good news that messiah** Yeshua came into the world to save sinners. You have heard that those who put their faith in him become children of the Most High Elohim, Yahweh.

Have you acted upon that knowledge? If not, will you open your hearts to Yeshua today. Will you allow him to change your life and give you a new nature. This world that you live in today will not continue forever. Yahweh is going to make a new earth and those who are united with the messiah will live there. Do you want to be one of them?

Those who have already put your faith in Yeshua but have not made him Lord of your lives, it's time to make some changes.

Lesson three: [part one] Living Entirely to Please Elohim

Colossians 1:9

<https://youtu.be/615bOWPnt9Y>

The apostle Paul praised the assembly in Colosse because **after** hearing and understanding grace and the expectation of receiving what Elohim has for them in Heaven, **they believed in Messiah Yeshua**. That belief led them to practice love for all the saints.

Epaphras, the person who started the congregation, is the one who taught them about Yeshua and his grace. Epaphras also told Paul about their love and about the threats from false teachers.

Colossians 1:5-8 TLV

(5) You heard before about this hope in the **true** message of the Good News (6) that has come to you. In all the world this Good News is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has in you since you first heard it and **came to truly know God's grace**.

(7) You **learned it from Epaphras**—our dearly loved fellow slave, who is a faithful servant of Messiah on our behalf.

(8) He **also** made clear to us your **love** in the Ruach [Spirit].

As I taught in the previous lesson the word Paul used for love is the Greek word **Agapaó**, which is an action word. This kind of love is evident by what one does for someone, not by what one says. In other words, the congregation in Colosse were not only "**talking the talk**", they were "**walking the walk**".

They were walking in love as Yeshua said believers should. When the congregation practice the **agapaó** love there will be less arguing, less disrespecting one another, less division and hostility toward each other; Less criticizing and backbiting.

In fact, when these things are present in the congregation, it is because we are not walking in love, but are in direct **disobedience** to the Lord's instruction.

John 13:34-35 CJB

(34) "I am giving you **a new command**: that you keep on loving each other. In the same way that I have loved you, you are also **to keep on loving** each other. (35) Everyone will know that you are my disciples by the fact that you have **love** for each other."

In other words by demonstrating the **agapaó love**. Not by saying "**I love you**".

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So, Epaphras laid the foundation of faith in the assembly. The believers were changed; they became **new creature** in Messiah. the old things had passed away. However, it would have been unwise to think the believers could **not** fall back into captivity. Especially since there were so many false teachers in the congregation.

Remember, these were **gentile believes**. They did not have copies of the Torah. Today, we, have so many bibles on our book shelves, and access to many translations on the internet. Therefore, it never occurs to us that the early believers did not have this privilege.

At the time Paul sent this letter, the only scripture available was the Greek old testament.

So, we see that the assembly **already** had the spiritual foundational experience. But They needed to grow in that experience. Therefore, for their growth, protection and wellbeing, the apostle Paul use the only weapon available that would **ensure** that the congregation continue to grow in grace and would be firmly established in the Messiah.

That was prayer. He placed the believer in the care of the father.

He said in verse three:

Colossians 1:3 CJB

(3) Whenever **we pray**, we always give thanks for you to God, the Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

Now in verses verse 9 thru 11 Paul lists the exact **content** of his prayers.

Colossians 1:9-14 CJB

(9) Therefore, from the day we heard of it, we have **not stopped praying** for you, asking God to **fill you with the knowledge of his will** in all **the wisdom and understanding** which the Spirit gives;

(10) so that you may live lives worthy of the Lord and **entirely pleasing to him**, being fruitful in every good work and multiplying in the full knowledge of God.

(11) We pray that you will **be continually strengthened with all the power** that comes from his glorious might; so that you will be able to persevere and be patient in any situation, joyfully

Paul prayed asking Elohim for four important things that the congregation needed as a firm foundation, which **all of us** need today as well.

1. To be **filled** with the knowledge of Elohim's will

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2. To have **wisdom and understanding** from the spirit
3. To live **lives worthy** of the Lord and **entirely pleasing to him**,
4. To be continually **strengthen with all power** from Elohim's might.

A. TO BE FILLED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF ELOHIM'S WILL

To be filled is **to be fill to the top** so that nothing shall be wanting. It is to have a **complete knowledge** of God's will. To fully understand what he wants us to do.

The **gnostic** was teaching that one only need **knowledge** to come to Elohim.

They stressed knowledge and understanding.

Paul used their terminology and philosophy to put the believes on the right path. We are not saved by knowledge but by grace through faith in Yeshua.

He prayed that their **knowledge** would be channeled in the right direction. not from within themselves, but on Elohim and what He wanted them to do.

Human Knowledge **puffs** up. It makes us think we know something when we actually have no clue. Human knowledge focus on ourselves, on what we know; what we want to do.

But if we are filled to the top with the knowledge of Elohim will, there is no room for any **false teaching** to get in.

The Paul prayed a similar prayer for the congregation in Ephesus;

Ephesians 1:17 CJB

In my prayers I keep asking the God of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, the glorious Father, to give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you will have **full knowledge of him**.

We all need to have a **full** knowledge Yahweh. we all need a **full and complete** knowledge of what Elohim's will is for our lives. We need to know what he wants us to do. And then "**just do it**". We don't have to pray about it.

We should be like Paul. When **he came to know what the father's will** for him was, He went to **great length** to preach the good news of Yeshua to everyone.

He didn't need to take **week or months** to pray about what the will of Elohim was for him. Being led by the Holy Spirit, **Paul** took advantage of every opportunity to preach the gospel.

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He was called to **preach** and **preached**. No one needed to ask him.

1 Corinthians 9:16 CJB

(16) For **I can't boast** merely because I proclaim the Good News—this I do from **inner compulsion**: **woe** is me if I don't proclaim the Good News!

That inner pressure to proclaim the good news was there because Paul knew the **will of the father** was for him to preach to gospel.

1 Corinthians 9:19-22 CJB

(19) For although I am a free man, not bound to do anyone's bidding, I have made **myself a slave** to all in order to **win as many people** as possible.

(20) That is, with **Jews**, what I did was put myself in the position of a Jew, in order to win Jews. With people in subjection to a **legalistic perversion** of the Torah, I put myself in the position of someone under such legalism, in order to win those under this legalism, even though I myself am not in subjection to a legalistic perversion of the Torah.

(21) With those who live **outside** the framework of Torah, I put myself in the position of someone outside the Torah in order to win those outside the Torah — although I myself **am not outside the framework** of God's Torah but within the framework of Torah as upheld by the Messiah.

(22) With the "**weak**" I became "weak," in order to win the "weak." With all kinds of people I have become all kinds of things, so that in all kinds of circumstances I might **save at least some of them**.

This is what ministry is about. Preaching and teaching so others can be saved and disciplined for the kingdom of Elohim.

If we **know** we have been called to preach, we **don't have to pray about it**, if someone ask us to preach. We don't have to ask the Lord if I should preach. The fact that he presents us with an opportunity is proof that he wants us to do what we are called to do. Yahweh does not call anyone to **sit down** and do nothing. We don't need a calling for that. We do that automatic.

The **second** thing Paul ask Yahweh to do the Colossians was that for them

B.TO HAVE WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING FROM THE SPIRIT

Colossians 1:9 CJB

Therefore, from the day we heard of it, we have **not stopped praying** for you, asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will in all **the wisdom and understanding** which the Spirit gives;

WISDOM: Greek- Sophia

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Means Insight and intelligence.

UNDERSTANDING: Greek- synesei

The intellect of mental putting together.

We cannot operate in the **will** of the father **without** wisdom and understanding. Without the **intellectual insight** and the **ability** to put the truth together in the proper perspective.

Through the Holy Spirit, Yahweh give us the wisdom and understanding we need to know what the **will** of the father is.

Solomon says wisdom knowledge and understanding come from Yahweh.

Proverbs 2:6 CJB

(6) For Yahweh gives wisdom; from **his** mouth comes knowledge and understanding

Without the **intellectual insight** and the **ability** to rightly divide the word We often misunderstand what the will of the father is for his **congregation** today. There are so many things being taught in the congregations today that are anti-Messiah, anti-Torah, anti-Yahweh.

So many **doctrines of demons** are being taught. So many **pagan** doctrines of man are being taught. Yet Yahweh is reaching out through his spirit, to give us the wisdom and understanding that we need. But so many have chosen to reject this wisdom and to remain in darkness.

It is similar to what Yeshua contended with when he was on earth. Those who opposed him the most were the **self-righteous religious leaders**. Those who were steeped in **tradition**.

Yeshua said:

Mark 7:7-9 CJB

(7) Their worship of me is useless, because they teach man-made rules as if they were doctrines.'

(8) "You depart from God's command and hold onto human tradition.

(9) Indeed," he said to them, "you have made a fine art of departing from God's command in order to keep your tradition!

So Paul prayed, asking Elohim to fill the believers with the knowledge of his will in all **the wisdom and understanding** which the Spirit gives.

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James tells us if we don't have this wisdom we should ask Elohim.

James 1:5 HS

Now if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask Elohim, who gives to all generously and without reproach; and it will be given to him.

How many of you need this wisdom today? How many are standing at cross road, not know which way to turn. You hear so many different things being taught, and you don't know what to believe.

The Holy Spirit will help you to know the truth. Yeshua said He will

John 16:13 CJB

However, when the Spirit of Truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; ...

Only don't be like the pharisees, who stubbornly rejected the light from Elohim, and chose to continue to walk in darkness.

The Ruach Hakodesh [Holy Spirit] is drawing the hearts of his people back to Hebraic root of the faith.

So much of the original doctrine has been contaminated by paganism. The church has taken the authority of changing many of Yahweh's instruction and precepts to fit their own rules and regulation.

So, my question to you today is:

if you know the truth, what are you doing about it?

Have you chosen to continue to walk in the old ways for fear of what men say about you.

My prayer for you today, is the one that Paul prayed for the early congregations;

Colossians 1:9-14 CJB

(9), asking God to **fill you with the knowledge of his will** in all the **wisdom and understanding** which the Spirit gives;

(10) so that you may live lives worthy of the Lord and **entirely pleasing to him**, being fruitful in every good work and multiplying in the full knowledge of God.

(11) We pray that you will **be continually strengthened with all the power** that comes from his glorious might; so that you will be able to persevere and be patient in any situation, joyfully

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Lesson three: [part two]

Living Entirely to Please Elohim Colossians 1:10-11

<https://youtu.be/hIDDhFQsUao>

The prayer that apostle Paul prayed for the believers in Colosse is a prayer that we all need today

The congregation at Colossae had been infiltrated with false teacher. However, the congregation had a good foundation of faith, and was practicing the love of messiah to all believers.

When Paul receive the news about these believes from **Epaphras**, a dear brother and servant of Messiah, he was prompted to write to them, to **praise** them and to **pray** for them so they would grow in grace and become **strong** in the Lord.

The **four** specific things that Paul ask Yahweh to do for the congregation was for them:

1. To be **filled** with the knowledge of Elohim's **will**
2. To have **wisdom and understanding** from the **spirit**
3. To live **lives worthy** of the Lord and **entirely pleasing to him**,
4. To be continually **strengthen with all power** from Elohim's **might**.

The first two were discussed in the previous lesson.

We learned that, to carry out Elohim's will, we need wisdom and understanding. Wisdom is the **intellectual insight and understanding is the ability** to put the truth together in the proper perspective. **Both** comes from the Holy Spirit within us.

Today we will look at the **next two** things that Paul asked Yahweh to do for his congregation.

C. TO LIVE LIVES WORTHY OF THE LORD AND ENTIRELY PLEASING TO HIM

Colossians 1:9-10 CJB

(9), asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will in all the wisdom and

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understanding which the Spirit gives;

Colossians 1:10

So that you may **live lives worthy** of the Lord and **entirely pleasing to him, being fruitful** in every good **work** and **multiplying in the full knowledge** of God.

The false teachers in Colosse offer the believers a "spiritual knowledge," but this knowledge did not lead to **living a life to please Elohim**. Living to please the Lord requires obedient to Yahweh's instruction. It requires us to grow in our knowledge of Elohim.

knowledge and obedience go together. There is no separation between **learning** and **living in** the life of a believer. When we learn what the Lord wants us to do we must live out that knowledge in our daily **walk** with him.

Wisdom and practical intelligence **must** go together

Unlike the **Gnostics** who taught **head** knowledge, Paul prayed for knowledge that would lead to a daily spiritual walk that Elohim approved of. One in which Yahweh would be please with. Not to please him a little, but to **totally please** him.

Often when we **totally** please the **Lord**, we find ourselves at odd with men. Because if we don't do things the way men think we should do them, we find ourselves on their most **unfavorable list**. And many of them will turn their backs on **us** and leave us to go it alone.

Remember when Yeshua said something to his followers that they didn't like, many of them **walked** away from him. And Yeshua said the servants are not greater than their master. If they did it to Yeshua, they will do it **us**.

However, Elohim require loyalty to him above all else. The apostle Paul, when accused of catering to men said in –

Galatians 1:10 CJB

Now does that sound as if I were trying **to win human approval**? No! I want **God's approval**! Or that I'm trying to cater to people? If I were still doing that, I would not be a servant of the Messiah.

In other words, we must always **live our lives entirely to please Elohim**, even if it means losing the friendship of someone very close to us.

However, if every believer in the congregation strive to live their live entirely to please the Lord there would be **unity of the Spirit**. And together we would be **fruitful** in every good work. Because the Holy spirit would make us fruitful. The Holy Spirit **cannot work** where there is **division and strife**.

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Moses taught Israel Yahweh's statutes and ordinances. He taught them, so they would obey them and thus have wisdom **and understanding**.

Deuteronomy 4:5-6

(5) Look, I have taught you laws and rules, even as Yahweh my God commanded me, that you **should do so** in the middle of the land where you go in to possess it.
(6) Therefore, **observe them**; and **follow them**; for then all peoples will see you as having **wisdom and understanding**. When they hear of all these laws, they will say, 'This great nation is surely a wise and understanding people.'

Scripture knowledge must be **practiced in real life**. As we grow in knowledge we should also grow in grace. Peter says

2 Peter 3:18 CJB

(18) And **keep growing in grace and knowledge** of our Lord and Deliverer, Yeshua the Messiah. To him be the glory, both now and forever! Amen.

Therefore, believers must first have **wisdom**. Then we must **walk** in righteousness, which produces **work**. Faith without work is a dead faith.

When we spend time each day **in prayer** and in **studying** the word we will know what the **will** of Elohim is. When we know what Yahweh's, will is we will walk in that will and He will work through us to accomplish His purpose on earth.

If we do not live a **God filled life** we cannot produce **God filled work**.

Paul prayed that we would be **fruitful** in every good **work** and **multiplying in the full knowledge** of God.

Greek word Knowledge- epígnōsis.

Which is perception, discernment, recognition. It means knowledge gained through **first-hand** relationship; experiential knowing.

In other word, it is not the knowledge **learn from books**, or knowledge we learn from **teacher and preacher**. It is knowledge we **acquire** from a personal relationship with Elohim. A knowledge we get from our daily walk with him. The more we **walk with him**, the more we **live our lives** to fully please him, the **closer we get to him**, the more we come to know him. our knowledge of Him will **multiply or** grow.

Knowledge, conduct, service, and character must **always** go together.

We need to know what Elohim's will is, so we can **obey it**; and, in obeying his will, we **serve** Him and grow in Christian character.

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This is the balance that we all must strive for. However, we cannot do **any** of these things **without** the power of the holy spirit.

Which brings us to the **fourth** and **last** item of Paul's prayer.

The **fourth** thing Paul prayed was for the believers

D. BE CONTINUALLY STRENGTHENED WITH ALL THE POWER

Colossians 1:-11 CJB

(11) We pray that you will **be continually strengthened with all the power** that comes from **his glorious might**; so that you will be able to persevere and be patient in any situation, joyfully

The two words Paul used here: **power & might come from** two different Greek words:

Power: dunamis (from which we get our word "dynamite") means "miraculous power"

Might: kratos means "**dominion power**," a mighty deed or power that is put forth in action.

We need to continually be strengthened with all the **miraculous power** that comes from the **mighty deed** the Lord performs for us because of his power over the universe.

Believers who know what Elohim's will is and obey it by serving Him and growing in Christian character, will be given the **miraculous** power to defeat our spiritual enemies.

our fight is not against flesh and blood, according to Paul in Ephesians 6:12.

Ephesians 6:12 CJB

For we are not struggling against **human beings**, but against the rulers, authorities and cosmic powers governing this darkness, against the **spiritual forces** of evil in the heavenly realm.

Therefore, it will require a special kind of power to defeat them. **the power that comes from Elohim's glorious might**; his **Dominion** power.

We will need the **Kratos power** that comes from our heavenly father who has **dominion** or control in the heaven above, on the earth and beneath the earth. And he will fight with us and for us.

After Yeshua went the distance in conquering death for humanity, Yahweh the father gave dominions over those regions to him. He placed everything under Yeshua's feet. Therefore, when I use the word **Elohim**, I am saying that you have the entire heavenly family working on your behalf. **Elohim is a plural word**. It means **more**

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than one. Therefore, the father, son, and Holy Spirit are there to strengthen us and to empower us to walk in righteousness and to live our lives to please them.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 CJB

(4) because the weapons we use to wage war are **not worldly**. On the contrary, they have **Elohim's power** for demolishing strongholds. We demolish arguments

(5) and every arrogance that raises itself up against the knowledge of Elohim; we take every thought captive and make it obey the Messiah.

We have this **Dunamis power** from Elohim to demolish every stronghold Satan raises against us.

Paul said we need this power in order to **perseveres** in any situation.

Colossians 1:-11

(11) We pray that you will **be continually strengthened with all the power** that comes from **his glorious might**;

so that you will be **able to persevere** and **be patient in any situation**, joyfully.

The **Greek** word means not to just **persevere**, but to **persevere cheerful**. Not grumbling and complaining because things are not going your way.

But to be patient and joyful. Have the endurance necessary for a peaceful life, being **cheerful are calm**.

Things will not always go smoothly with us. We often face challenges and difficulties in our lives. Yahweh never promises us that everything will always go smoothly for us. He knows we are contending with an evil being who wants nothing more than to destroy us. He does not take us out of our troubles, he goes through them with us and brings us out victorious. If we are not kicking and screaming.

Patience is an **important characteristic** of a mature believer. And we often learn patience through the things we suffer.

Romans 5:3-5 CJB

(3) But not only that, let us also **boast in our troubles**; because we know that trouble produces **endurance**,

(4) endurance produces character, and character produces hope;

(5) and this hope does not let us down, because Elohim's love for us has already been poured out in our hearts through the Ruach HaKodesh who has been given to us.

And so, Paul prayed for the Colossians and for us saying.

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Colossians 1:10-12 WNT

(10) so that **your lives** may be **worthy of the Lord** and **perfectly pleasing** to Him, while you **exhibit the results** of right action of **every sort** and grow into a fuller knowledge of Elohim.

(11) Since His power is so glorious, may you be **strengthened with strength** of every kind, and be **prepared** for cheerfully enduring all things with **patience** and **long-suffering**;

(12) and **give thanks to the Father** who has made **us fit** to receive our share of the inheritance of God's people in Light.

Yahweh made us fit. At one time, **before Yeshua came**, we had no hope, we had no god, we had no Torah. But **now** because of his great love, he has brought us to himself and made us fit, by the blood of Yeshua, to share in the inheritance.

Ephesians 2:11-13 CJB

(11) Therefore, remember your former state: you **Gentiles by birth**—called the Uncircumcised by those who, merely because of an operation on their flesh, are called the Circumcised—

(12) at that time had no Messiah. You were estranged from the national life of Isra'el. You were **foreigners to the covenants** embodying **God's promise**. You were in this world **without hope and without God**.

(13) But now, you who were once far off have been brought **near through the shedding of the Messiah's blood**.

In Romans 11:17

Romans 11:17 CJB

But if some of the branches were broken off, and you—a **wild olive**—were **grafted** in among them and have become **equal sharers** in the rich root of the olive tree

And so, we **give thanks to Yahweh the Father** who has made **us fit** to **receive our** share of the inheritance of God's people **in Light**.

Not only have we received **our equal share** of the inheritance, but we have been strengthening and empowered by the father to have victory over sin and the enemy and have been given the **Holy Spirit** as a **down payment** of our finally inheritance held for us in heaven.

Hallelujah, praise Yah

Lesson Four: REDEMPTION THROUGH THE SON Colossians 1:13-14,20-23,26-27

https://youtu.be/NgSNo_qUYx8

After commending the congregation in Colosse and praying for them to have wisdom, understanding and strength

Beginning with **verse 13** Paul changed his focus from the congregation to the Messiah. He begins by telling us what Yeshua has done for us.

(12) and **give thanks to the Father** who has made **us fit** to receive our share of the inheritance of God's people in Light.

Colossians 1:-13-14 CJB

(13) *He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son.*

(14) *It is through his Son that we have redemption — that is, our sins have been forgiven.*

This is one of the **most important doctrine** of the messiah in the bible. The false teacher, then and now, do not disagree that Yeshua is important, but some teach that Yeshua is only **one** way to salvation. They do not consider Yeshua as being preeminent. Some religion teach that he was a great man, and he was only one of the prophets.

Therefore, in view of the false teachers in the congregation in Colosse, Paul wrote to this congregation to prove the preeminence of Messiah.

In these passages of scripture Paul uses **four** arguments to show that our relationship with Yahweh, the father, is due to what Yeshua **did for** humanity.

It was not because of anything we have done or can do. **Philosopher or a religious** teacher cannot solve our problem, because humanity greatest problem is sin. Therefore, it would take someone **greater than ourselves** to solve our problem.

Paul said:

Colossians 1:-13-14 CJB

(13) He [Yahweh] has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of **his dear Son**.

(14) It is through **his Son** that we have redemption — that is, **our sins** have been forgiven.

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1. HE HAS RESCUED US FROM THE DOMAIN OF DARKNESS (V. 13A).

The whole world is being held captive by **Satan**, the ruler over the domain of darkness. He is a vicious, ruthless, and Relentless, being whose sole purpose is to kill and to destroy humanity.

The statement that Satan made when he tried to **tempt Yeshua** shows his authority over the world's dominions.

Matthew 4:8-9 CJB

Once more, the Adversary took him up to the summit of a very high mountain, showed him **all the kingdoms** of the world in all their glory,

(9) and said to him, "**All this I will give you** if you will bow down and worship me."

Many people marvel at the evil taking place in this world because they are ignorant of the person who is behind it all. What causes young men to walk into schools open fire and murder numerous of young people, seemingly, without a cause? There has to be a sinister power motivating them. These are men who have not come to faith in the Messiah.

Those who believe in Yeshua and are united with him have been set free from Satan's bondage. We have been rescued us from his domain. Not **only** have we been rescued out of Satan's dominion, but we have been transferred to a **new** dominion.

2. TRANSFERRED US INTO THE KINGDOM OF HIS DEAR SON. (V. 13B).

Colossians 1:-13 CJB

(13) He has transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son.

This word **transferred**, describes being deported from one place to another. We see a picture of this in Israel being deported from Egypt into the promised land. Yahweh rescued them from Egyptian's bondage and placed them in Canaan a land flowing with milk and honey.

Moses said Yahweh brought them out of Egypt to bring them into Canaan. He did not leave them wandering in the wilderness.

Leviticus 25:38 TS2009

(38) 'I am Yahweh your Elohim, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to give you the land of Canaan, to be your Elohim.

Yahweh did not rescue us from Satan's domain of darkness, to have us wander aimlessly. He rescued us and transferred us into the Kingdom of his son, Yeshua.

3. WE HAVE REDEMPTION THROUGH HIS BLOOD (V. 14A).

Colossians 1:14 TS2009

(14) in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins,

This word **redemption** means a releasing by payment of a ransom. The ransom price for the release of humanity from the kingdom of darkness was set by Yahweh. That price was **death**. Throughout the Jewish worship system of animal sacrifices, we get an understand of what it means by yeshua blood. Israel portrayed this, every time they brought an animal to the priest to be sacrificed on behalf of their sin, the required ransom price.

Leviticus 17:11 CJB

(11) For the **life** of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for yourselves; for it is the **blood** that makes atonement because of the life.'

Thus, when Yeshua voluntarily died, it was a sacrifice as if offered on the altar, substituting his **own blood** to give **life** to humanity. His **blood paid** the redemption price, thus setting us free from the bondage of sin, which caused us to be held captive by the **prince of darkness**.

Paul said in

Colossians 1:20 CJB

(20) and through his Son to reconcile to **himself** all things, whether on earth or in heaven, **making peace through him**, through having **his Son** shed **his blood** by being executed on a stake.

4. YAHWEH HAS FORGIVEN OUR SIN (V. 14B).

Colossians 1:-13-14 CJB

(14) It is **through his Son** ..., our sins have been forgiven.

According to Thayer's Greek dictionary.

The Greek word for **forgiveness** is **aphesis** [af'-es-is]. which means **two** things:

- 1) **release from bondage or imprisonment**
- 2) **forgiveness or pardon, of sins (letting them go as if they had never been committed).**

Through Yeshua, not only have we been released from the bondage of sin, but He has released our sin; he has let them **go** as if they have never happened. We have been **completely forgiven; completely restored** into relationship with Elohim. The messiah's blood has blotted out our sins and have given mankind a **new** beginning.

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Colossians 1:21-22 CJB

(21) In other words, you, who at one time were **separated from God** and had a hostile attitude towards him because of your wicked deeds,

(22) he has now **reconciled** in the Son's **physical body** through his death; in order to **present you holy and without defect** or reproach before himself

Paul is speaking specifically to gentiles. He is speaking **directly** to us.

That which **we all lost** when Adam sinned has been **brought back to its former state of harmony**

Paul explains it more clearly in Ephesian 2.

Ephesians 2:11-12 CJB

(11) Therefore, remember your former state: you Gentiles by birth—.....

(12) at that time had no Messiah. You were estranged from the national life of Isra'el. You were foreigners to the covenants embodying God's promise. You were in this world without **hope and without God**.

(13) **But now**, you who were once far off have been brought near through the shedding of the **Messiah's blood**.

It was always Elohim's plan to save **all** of humanity. However, we nor the Jews knew this. Paul said it was a secret. Some translation says it was a mystery.

Colossians 1:26-27 CJB

(26) the secret hidden for **generations**, for ages, but now made clear to the people he has set apart for himself.

(27) To them Elohim wanted to make known how great among the **Gentiles** is the glorious richness of **this secret**. And the secret is this: **the Messiah is united with you people! In that rests your hope of glory!**

He chose Israel through who the savior would be born. Israel was given the Torah. They were given the covenant. However, after Yeshua came **both** Israel and gentiles must use the **same** avenue to Yahweh. That is through his son Yeshua. Paul explains this in-

Romans 8:3 CJB

For what the **Torah** could not do by itself, because it lacked the power to make the old nature cooperate, Elohim did by sending **his own Son** as a human being with a nature like our own sinful one [**but without sin**]. Elohim did this in order to deal with **sin**, and in so doing he executed the **punishment against sin** in human nature,

The congregation in Colosse was **reminded** that the hope they held on to, because of hearing the good news preached to them, and their exercising their faith in

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Messiah, was a gift to them from Yahweh the father, through his son Yeshua.

We need to be reminded of the same thing today. We, all have heard the good news that have been preached throughout the world.

Yahweh has brought us **all** together through his son's physical body on the cross, in order to present **us holy** and without defect before him.

However, we will not inherit the gift laid up for us in heaven unless we are steadfast in the Lord. Unless we are grounded in the messiah. If we **turn aside** and begin to follow false teachers or false doctrines of demons we will **not** receive what has been promised.

1 Timothy 4:1-2 TLV

(1) Now the Ruach (Spirit) clearly says that in later times some will **fall away** from the **faith**, following deceitful spirits and teachings of demons

(2) through the hypocrisy of **false speakers**—whose own conscience has been seared.

It is this type of action that will **hinder us** from the hope offered to us in the Good News of salvation through the blood of the messiah.

Colossians 1:22-23 CJB

(22) he has now **reconciled** in the Son's **physical body** through his death; in order to **present you holy and without defect** or reproach before himself

(23) **provided**, of course, that you **continue in your trusting**, grounded and steady, and don't let yourselves be moved away from the hope offered in the Good News you heard.....

In other words, if they **do not** allow themselves to be deceived by the false teacher among them.

Whose voice are you listening to today? We are admonished to **test** the spirits.

1 John 4:1 TLV

(1) Loved ones, do not believe **every spirit**, but **test** the spirits to see if they are from God. For many false prophets have gone out into the world.

If what you are **listening** to and **believing** in goes contrary to the word of Elohim, it is the wrong spirit.

Lesson five

The Supremacy of Messiah

Colossians 1:15-19

<https://youtu.be/2Ip0g4SBAsA>

Paul says in **Colossians 1:22** Yahweh has **reconciled** us in the Son's **physical body** through his death; in order to **present us holy and without defect** or reproach before himself.

It was through Yeshua death that our sins are forgiven.

No other person on earth qualified to reconcile humanity with the father. It was sin that separated man from Elohim. Sin created a gulf between humanity and Elohim and only someone special and unique could bridge that gap.

It would take someone who has **no sin** in his blood to do this. Since we are all born sinner, it would need to be a person who has no sin. And since no one on the earth qualified, Yahweh sent his own son. Even though Yeshua was born of a woman, his father was not human. The Holy Spirit impregnated Mary. Therefore, no sin tainted blood flowed through his vein. It has been determined that the mother's blood does not mix with the baby she is carrying. That is the only way **Yeshua could be born a human without sin.**

Yahweh himself took the initial to bring man back to him through his **own** son, Yeshua.

John 3:16 AMPC

"For God so greatly loved and dearly prized the world that He [even] gave up His only begotten (**unique**) Son, so that whoever believes in (trusts in, clings to, relies on) Him shall not perish (**come to destruction, be lost**) but have eternal (everlasting) life."

The son who existed with his father before the world was created.

Colossians 1:15-17 CJB

(15) He is the **visible image** of the invisible God. He is **supreme** over all creation, (16) because in connection with him were created **all things** — in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, lordships, rulers or authorities — they have all been created through him and for him.

(17) **He existed** before all things, and he holds everything together.

In this section, Paul explained the **fourfold relationship** of Yeshua to Creation.

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- **He is the visible image of the invisible God** (15a)
- **He is supreme** over all creation, (15b)
- **created all things** —(16a)
- **He existed before all things (17)**

1. YESHUA IS THE VISIBLE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD.

Have you ever wondered what Elohim look like? His son, Yeshua, has made him known. He is **identical** to the father. The ***visible image of the invisible God***

Hebrews 1:3 CJB

This Son is the radiance of the Sh'khinah (glory), the **very expression of God's essence**,....

Or as some translates it, the ***express image*** from the Greek word **khar-ak-tar**.

khar-ak-tar is

- the instrument used for engraving or carving.
- the exact expression (the image) of any person or thing, **precise** reproduction in **every** respect.

Yeshua is the **precise** reproduction of the father, Yahweh in every respect. So much like his father that he could say "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.." [John 14:9]

John tell us-

John 1:18 CJB

No one has ever seen God; but the only and **unique Son**, who is **identical** with God and is at the Father's side—**he has made him known**.

John 1:18 AMP

¹⁸No man has ever seen God at any time; the only *unique Son, or* the only begotten God, Who is in the bosom [in the intimate presence] of the Father, **He has declared Him** [He has revealed Him and **brought Him** out where **He can be seen**; He has interpreted Him and He has made Him known].

Colossians 2:9 CJB

(9) For in him, **bodily**, lives the **fullness** of all that Elohim is.

2. HE IS SUPREME OVER ALL CREATION, (15B)

Yeshua is highest ranking, head, superior, first, greatest, preeminent, over everything that was created.

Not only is he **supreme** over all creation, he created all things.

3. CREATED ALL THINGS (16A)

Colossians 1:15 CJB

(16) because in connection with him were created **all things** — in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, lordships, rulers or authorities — they have all been created through him and for him.

Hebrews 1:2 CJB

(2) .. in these last days, he [Yahweh] has spoken to us through **his Son**, to whom he has given ownership of everything and **through whom** he created the universe.

As **creator**, it is no wonder that the winds and waves obeyed Him. He had only to speak to the wind when the disciples were in the boat wrestling with the wind when a storm suddenly caught them off guard. Yeshua simply said "**Peace be still**" and the wind quieted down. **Death and disease** fled from him at the sound of his voice. because Yeshua is their master. **He is supreme over everything.**

4. HE EXISTED BEFORE ALL THINGS (17)

Colossians 1:17 CJB

He existed before all things, and **he holds** everything together.

In John chapter 17, Yeshua's said:

John 17:5 CJB

(5) Now, Father, glorify me alongside yourself. Give me the **same glory** I had with you **before the world existed.**

John 1:1-3 CJB

(1) **In the beginning was** the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word was Elohim.

(2) He was **with** Elohim in the beginning.

(3) **All things** came to be **through him**, and without him nothing made had being. Because Yeshua existed before all thing. And since he created al things, **he knows how to hold everything together.**

Even thought at present Elohim **is permitting Satan** to operated here, in the world he created, Satan does not have **ultima** authority. He can only do what Elohim permits him to do.

The father, Yahweh has turned **everything** in this world over to his son, who is holding everything together by the words of his mouth.

Hebrews 1:1-2 CJB

(1) In days gone by, Elohim spoke in many and varied ways to the Fathers through the prophets.

(2) But now, in these last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, **to whom he has given ownership of everything** and through whom **he** created the universe.

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The account of Job is an **example** that Satan can **only do** what Elohim permits him to do. Satan could not send wind to destroy Job's family until Yahweh permitted him to do so. He could not afflict Job's body with a disease, until Yahweh permitted him to afflict him.

Colossians 1:18-19 CJB

(18) Also he is **head of the Body**, the Messianic Community — he is the beginning, the **firstborn** from the dead, so that he might hold **first** place in everything.

(19) For it pleased God to have his full being live in his Son Paul **now shifts** from Yeshua's relationship with the **universe** to his relationship with the Messianic Community.

He shows the Yeshua's Supremacy over the congregation [assembly or Church].

Ephesians 1:17, 22-23 CJB

... the God of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, the glorious Father,

(22) Also, he **has put all things** under his feet and made him **head over** everything for the **Messianic** Community,

(23) which is his body, the **full expression** of him who fills all creation.

No **denomination** or **local assembly** can claim to be "**the body of Messiah**". The congregation, the body of messiah is composed of all **true** believers. When a person places in faith in Messiah, he is baptized **by the Holy Spirit into this body**.

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 CJB

(12) For just as the body is one but has many parts; and all the parts of the body, though many, **constitute one body**; so it is with the Messiah.

(13) For it was by **one Spirit** that we were **all immersed** into one body, whether Jews or Gentiles, slaves or free; and we were all given the **one** Spirit to drink.

Each believer is a member of this spiritual body, and **Yeshua is the Head**. And as the head of the congregation, his body, Yeshua supplies it with life through His Spirit.

In order for his body to operate **effectively**, when Yeshua ascended back into heave, he gave **gifted men** in the congregation to oversee the believers and to prepare them for kingdom citizens.

Ephesians 4:8,11-13

(8) This is why it says, "After he went up into the heights, he led captivity captive and he gave **gifts to mankind**."

(11) And He Himself appointed some to be **Apostles**, some to be **Prophets**, some to be **evangelists**, some to be **pastors** and **teachers**

(12) Their task is to **equip God's people** for the work of **service** that builds the

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body of the Messiah,

(13) **until** we all arrive at the **unity** implied by trusting and knowing the Son of God, at full manhood, at the **standard** of maturity set by the Messiah's perfection.

Even though some may be the founder of a local congregation, he is **not the head** of Yeshua's congregation. Yeshua is the founder and the head, which was initiated on the day of shavu'ot, or Pentecost.

Therefore, we need to give the Lord **his rightful** place in his congregation. When we give him **his rightful** place in his congregation, he will have his rightful place in **our personal** life as well

Colossians 1:19 CJB

For it pleased God to have **his full being live in his Son.**

The point that Paul has made in this section of scripture is to show that Yeshua has **preeminence** over all things.

This was the father's purpose in making His **Son the Savior, Creator, and Head of the congregation.**

Yeshua has broken down **all racial barriers** and has created **one** new congregation bearing his mark of the supreme head.

Colossians 3:11 CJB

(11) The new self allows **no room** for discriminating between Gentile and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, foreigner, savage, slave, free man; on the contrary, in all, **the Messiah is everything.**

Yeshua is **the Savior, the Creator, the Head of the Assembly, and the Beloved of the Father.** He is **eternal** God...

Therefore, in Our own lives **He deserves** to have the preeminence.

What place does the Lord have in your life? Is he closed in a closet, only to be allowed out when you get in trouble?

Is Yeshua, the son of the living Elohim, **preeminent in your life?**

Does he **hold first place?**

Think about that today.