

1. Colossae was a minor city, now in ruins, located in a mountainous area near Laodicea (see 4:16) in central Asia Minor (now Turkey). On the map you will find it between Ephesus and the region of Galatia. Indeed, Paul's letter to the Colossians reflects themes from the books of Ephesians and Galatians. What are these themes?
2. What two qualities of the Colossian assembly prompt Paul to give thanks for them? How do they go together?
3. Col. 2:1 tells us that Paul had never met the Colossians in person. Who brought the gospel to them?
4. What is Paul's prayer for the Colossians in verse 9 and what specific results does he hope it will produce?
5. Christ is called the "firstborn" twice – the firstborn of creation in v. 15 and the firstborn from the dead in v. 18. What do these mean?
6. List all the entities over which Christ is preeminent (superior, in first place) in verses 16-18. Why is this important?
7. How does the fullness of God dwell in Christ?
8. What is reconciled in verses 20-21 and how?
9. Ephesians 5:27 tells us that Christ desires the Church to be presented holy and unblemished. Here it is the believer. What are the cleansing methods used in each case?