

The Practicality of Christ's Coming

2 Thessalonians 3:1-18

Believers should be established in their words, walk, and work because Christ in light of the second coming of Christ.

A. A Plea for Prayer (3:1-2)

1. For the spreading of the gospel (1)

2. For the glory of the gospel (1)

3. For deliverance from the enemies of the gospel (2)

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B. A Promise of Faith (3:3-5)

1. The condition of the promise (3)

Because God is faithful (3)

2. The content of the promise (3)

Stablish you and keep you from evil (3)

3. The confidence in the promise (4)

That they will do the right thing if.....

4. The character of the promise (5)

God directs your life

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C. A Warning Against A Bad Testimony (3:6-15)

- 1. Don't let bad testimony corrupt you (6)**
- 2. Follow a good testimony (7-9)**
- 3. The problem - Idleness (10-12)**
- 4. The solution (13-15)**
 - a. Help where help is needed (13)**
 - b. Don't bail the "busybodies" out (14)**
 - c. Show the "busybodies" the right way (15)**

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D. A Godly Goodbye (3:16-18)

- 1. A prayer for God's blessing (16)**
- 2. A personal note (17)**
- 3. Based on God's grace (18)**

**A Gracious Greeting
Colossians 1:1-8**

**Members of God's Family Should Be Greeted
With Grace**

Background



Outline Of The Book

Chapter 1 - Christ, the Perfect Source of Our Salvation

Chapter 2 - Christ, the Perfect Object of Our Worship

Chapter 3 - Christ, the Perfect Lord of Our Life

Chapter 4 - Christ, the Perfect Master of Relationships

I. Members of God's Family (1:1-2a)

Colossians 1:1-2a

**1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and
Timotheus our brother,**

**2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are
at Colosse: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

I. Members of God's Family (1:1-2a)

A. Saints (1:1)

Set apart to God at the time of salvation

2 Corinthians 5:21

**For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin;
that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.**

I. Members of God's Family (1:1-2a)

B. Faithful brothers (1:2a)

Faithful because of trusting Christ

Titus 3:5

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

John 1:12-13

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

II. Cherished Members of God's Family (1:2b-5)

Colossians 1:2b-5

2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints,

5 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

II. Cherished Members of God's Family (1:2b-5)

A. Greeted warmly (1:2b)

By the grace and peace of God

2 Peter 1:2

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

Hebrews 4:16

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 12:28

Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

II. Cherished Members of God's Family (1:2b-5)

B. Appreciated deeply (1:3-5)

- 1. A people never met by Paul**
- 2. A prayer of thanksgiving for...**

- a. Their faith in Christ**

By the hearing of the Word (Romans 10:17)

- b. Their love for Christ**

By the fellowship of the saints

Romans 5:5

And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

- c. Their hope by Christ**

By acting on the Word

III. Productive Members of God's Family (1:6-8)

Colossians 1:6-8

6 Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth:

7 As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ;

8 Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.

III. Productive Members of God's Family (1:6-8)

A. Experiencing the power of the Word (6-7)

Psalm 126:6

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

1. By fruitfulness beginning at salvation

2. By fruitfulness believing the truth of God's grace

III. Productive Members of God's Family (1:6-8)

A. Experiencing the power of the Word (6-7) - continued

3. By deciding to be fruitful - Being sanctified

John 17:17

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Ephesians 5:25b-27

25b ... even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

III. Productive Members of God's Family (1:6-8)

A. Experiencing the power of the Word (6-7) - continued

3. By deciding to be fruitful - Being sanctified

Titus 2:11-12

11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

III. Productive Members of God's Family (1:6-8)

A. Experiencing the power of the Word (6-7) - continued

4. By following a good model – Epaphras

Colossians 4:7

Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

Philemon 1:23

There salute thee Epaphras, my fellowprisoner in Christ Jesus;

III. Productive Members of God's Family (1:6-8)

B. Expressing love in the Spirit (8)

Faithfulness overcomes adversity

1 Thessalonians 1:6-9

6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost.

7 So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.

III. Productive Members of God's Family (1:6-8)

B. Expressing love in the Spirit (8)

Faithfulness overcomes adversity

1 Thessalonians 1:6-9 – continued

8 For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.

9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

**How can we foster a
greater sense of
Christian love?**