

# Colossians 2

## Background

In chapter 1, after Paul's introductory remarks, Paul dives into some essentials of the Christian faith. As mentioned before, the region of Asia Minor was beset by pagan worship and other highly problematic beliefs. It was essential for Paul to set a ground truth for the Colossian believers (and the believers for all of Asia Minor). After establishing Christ's preeminence and our reconciliation in Christ, it follows that our actions should be a sacrificial service to Christ that was demonstrated by Paul himself. What follows in chapter 2? Read on to find out!

## Day 1 - Read and Memorize

1. Read the chapter at least twice. If possible, use different translations. Optionally, have the passage read to you. Many apps, including the Blue Letter Bible, have a feature that will read the Bible to you. Meditate and pray on the passage.

1. Consider and start memorizing the verse below:

### Colossians 2:6-7

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

## Day 2 - Observations

2. **Who** is Paul continuing to address in chapter 2? **What** nearby church does Paul mention in this chapter?

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3. Paul does not want the Colossians to be cheated! **What** does he want them to not be cheated by? **Where** do these things that Paul is warning about come from? **Where** does it NOT come from? (v8)

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4. **What** were we dead to? **Who** has made us alive? **How** did He make us alive? (v13-14)

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5. **What** three things did Jesus do to "principalities and powers?" (v15)

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6. Based on what Jesus did in verse 15, **what** question is Paul asking in verses 20-23? (Remember to keep this answer as observation. No interpretation...yet.)

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7. **(Optional)** Write down any **additional** observations from your study time this week not covered in the observation questions above. This is the 'who, what, when, where, why, and how' of the passage.

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### Day 3 - Additional Observations

8. Take note of any repeated words, thoughts, or phrases in our passage this week. Write those down below.

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9. Did any parts of the passage you read make you think about other stories in the Bible? This includes similar narratives, but could also include similarity in lessons being learned by different people at different times. We call these links "purposeful parallels." If so, write those down below.

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10. **Word Studies:** Use the "Blue Letter Bible" or your favorite word study method to look up the word listed below: Colossians 2:1 (NKJV), **"For I want you to know what a great conflict I have for you and those in Laodicea..."** - This week's word from the passage above: **"conflict (struggle in ESV)"**

Write out the Greek word phonetically so you can learn how to pronounce it. What are some definitions of the word provided by the Greek dictionary? How does understanding the Greek word help you in understanding this passage more fully?

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11. **Optional Word Studies:** Look up words you are curious about in the passage in a Greek dictionary. Write the word out phonetically and how understanding the Greek word helps you understand the passage more fully.
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#### **Day 4 - Interpret**

Now that we have determined what the text says, move into interpretation. The meaning of the text is not subjective. The goal of interpretation is to discover God's intended meaning for the text we just read and provided observations for.

12. In verses 11-15, Paul finds it necessary to teach and/or remind the believers of Collosae of some wonderful truths that are a result of what Jesus did on the cross. With that in mind, write down what Paul was telling the church what they needed to do as a result of the truths from the previous verses and what they shouldn't do. What lesson was he trying to teach them? (v16-23)
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13. **Optional:** Write down additional interpretations from your study time down below.
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#### **Day 5 - Life Application**

Reading the Bible should change you! The purpose of reading any passage or passages is to gain life changing applications you must consider for your own life.

14. Are there any traditions, worldly ideas or thoughts, self-imposed religion, false humility, or anything else that would cheat me or distract me from the simple truth of the gospel? Explain below.
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15. **Optional:** Write down any additional life applications from your study time this week down below.

## Day 6 - Closing Thoughts and Memory Verse

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## Notes from Teaching

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