
Putting Christ First: Key Concepts in Colossians

1. Past Milestones (1:3-8)

- a. Your faith in Christ Jesus
- b. Your love for all the saints

2. Prayerful Aim (1:9-14)

- a. Be filled with the knowledge of His will
 - i. In all wisdom
 - ii. In all spiritual understanding
- b. Walk worthy of the Lord
 - i. Fully pleasing Him
 - ii. Being fruitful in every good work
 - iii. Increasing in the knowledge of God
 - iv. Strengthened with all might
 - v. Giving thanks

3. Preeminent Focus (1:15-20)

- a. The Image of the Invisible God
- b. The Firstborn over all creation
- c. Creator of all things
- d. Sustainer of all things
- e. Head of the body, the church
- f. The Firstborn from the dead
- g. Peacemaker through the blood of His cross

4. Present Standing (1:21-23)

- a. Reconciled
- b. For holiness
- c. Conditional sanctification

5. Preaching Work (1:24 – 2:5)

- a. Suffering afflictions for the body, the church
- b. Stewardship from God, fulfilling the word of God
- c. Preaching and warning every man
- d. To present every man perfect in Christ
- e. Great conflict to encourage, knit together in love
- f. Protecting from error

6. Principled Walk (2:6-7)

- a. As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord (by belief)
- b. So walk in Him (by belief)
 - i. Rooted
 - ii. Built up
 - iii. Established in the faith
 - iv. As you have been taught
 - v. Abounding in it with thanksgiving

7. Present Dangers (2:8-23)

- a. Beware of being cheated by the tradition of men and not according to Christ
- b. Let no one judge you by external regulations
- c. Let no one cheat you of your reward by false religion

8. Perspective Changes (3:1-4)

- a. Be seeking the above things, where Christ is
- b. Be thinking the above things, not on the earthly things

9. Pointed Actions (3:5-17)

- a. Put to death your earthly members
- b. Put off your earthly reactions
- c. Put off lying to one another
- d. Put on godly character
- e. Let peace rule in your hearts as one body
- f. Let the word of Christ dwell in you in all wisdom
 - i. Teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom
 - ii. Singing in your hearts to the Lord
- g. Do all the name of the Lord, giving thanks to God the Father

10. Positional Duties (3:18 – 4:1)

- a. Wives submit to your husbands
- b. Husbands love your wives, and do not be bitter toward them
- c. Children obey your parents in all things
- d. Fathers do not provoke your children
- e. Bondservants obey your masters as to the Lord
- f. Masters give your bondservants what is just and fair

11. Particular Practices (4:2-6)

- a. Continue earnestly in prayer
 - i. Being vigilant in it with thanksgiving
 - ii. Praying for an open door of accurate proclaiming
- b. Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside
 - i. Redeeming the time
 - ii. Seasoning speech

12. Personal Examples (4:7-18)

- a. Tychicus – example of maturity and service
- b. Onesimus – example of grace and sanctification
- c. Aristarchus – example of someone there in times of trouble
- d. Mark – example of one who came back from failure
- e. Epaphras – example of caring, purposeful praying
- f. Luke – example of a faithful servant
- g. Demas – example of a forsaking servant
- h. Archippus – example of a leader being challenged to lead
- i. Paul – a sacrificing, serious servant