

# **“The Supremacy of Christ”**

**Colossians 1:1-2 ↔ September 3, 2006**

“From whatever angle one views our age, Colossians is up to date. Although written nearly 2000 years ago, its timeless message speaks to the dilemmas facing us today. To the problems and crises of our age, it presents Jesus Christ as the answer.”

**John MacArthur**

## **1. The Author: The Apostle Paul**

- a. **Paul’s Conversion:** From church persecutor to church planter by the will of God (*Acts 8:1-3; 9:1-8; 22:3-21; 26:2-29; 1 Timothy 1:12-17*).
- b. **Paul’s Calling:** Preach to the Gentiles (*Acts 9:15-16*)
- c. **Paul’s Credentials:** Old and New (*Philippians 3:4-9*)
- d. **Paul’s Companion:** Young Timothy (*2 Timothy 1:5-7*)
- e. **Paul’s Crisis:** “remember my chains” (*Colossians 4:18*)

## **2. The Recipients: The Church in Colosse**

- a. The Colossian church (located in Asia Minor) was likely founded by Epaphras or Philemon.
- b. Spiritual Descriptions: “saints” and “faithful brothers”

## **3. The Greeting: Grace and Peace**

- a. Divine Blessings: ‘unmerited favor’ and ‘wholeness’
- b. Christians, by virtue of grace, can enjoy peace with God.

## **◆ Gospel Applications:**

- 1. Remember Paul’s testimony: *God can change anyone!*
- 2. Remember the Church’s identity: *Set apart by God!*
- 3. Remember the Gospel: *Grace and Peace!*