

# Colossians - Chapter 1

## “Evidences of True Salvation”

### Colossians 1:4-8

#### Verse 4-5

1. What did Paul consider to be the evidences of a person's salvation?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ **in Christ Jesus** - These people gave evidence that their faith and trust was in a Person. 2:5
  - \_\_\_\_\_ **to all the saints** - An inward faith in Christ produces an outward \_\_\_\_\_ for people (vs. 8) because God's Holy Spirit now dwells within.
    - *“We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth.”*  
**2 Thessalonians 1:3**
    - *“Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints.”* **Philemon 5**
  - **Heavenly** \_\_\_\_\_ - True believers in Christ are filled with a future hope, the hope of heaven.
    - *“For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”* **2 Corinthians 5:1**
2. Notice in verse 5 that the Colossians heard about their heavenly hope when Epaphras had shared the gospel with them.
3. Eternal life is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, and Paul considered it to be an integral part of the gospel message.
  - *“In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.”* **Titus 1:2**

- *“That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.” Titus 3:7*
4. Faith, love, and hope: these are the fruits that Paul looked for in the churches that gave evidence of true salvation.

### Verse 6-7

1. Notice that our mission field is the \_\_\_\_\_. vs. 6
  - Paul had an “all men,” “every nation” ministry, and fulfilled it faithfully. 1:28
2. Paul had learned the secret of \_\_\_\_\_ through other faithful men (like Epaphras) and shared that spiritual secret with Timothy.
  - *“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.” 2 Timothy 2:2*
3. The gospel had brought forth fruit in these Colossians. In other words, it had \_\_\_\_\_ their lives.
4. Notice the progression that happened in order for them to bear that spiritual fruit:
  - First, they \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel. vs. 6
  - Second, they \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel. vs. 7
  - Third, they \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel. vs. 6
5. Paul defines the gospel in verse 6 as, *“the grace of God in truth.”*

### Verse 8

1. When Epaphras journeyed to Rome and visited Paul, he told Paul of all the great \_\_\_\_\_ in this Colossian church. Remember, this is an evidence of true salvation.
2. Paul identified where this love was coming from. They were loving *“in the Spirit.”*

3. Galatians 5:22 says, *“the fruit of the Spirit is love.”*
- Before salvation, it is unnatural to love \_\_\_\_\_ people. Titus 3:3
  - But, at salvation, the Holy Spirit comes to indwell believers and lead them into a life of love. God's Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ us to love.
  - *“He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit. But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.”* **1 Thessalonians 4:8-9**