

“THE REALITY BELONGS TO CHRIST”

The Letter to the Colossians

Who wrote The Letter to the Colossians?

The Letter to the Colossians was written by the Apostle Paul.

How did The Letter to the Colossians get its name and/or what does that name mean?

The Letter to the Colossians was named for the Church established in Colossae.

When did these events take place?

The Letter to the Colossians was probably written sometime after 55 A.D. during one of Paul's imprisonments

For more about The Letter to the Colossians:

See page 1292 in the [Fireside Catholic Youth Bible](#).

It all begins so innocently. If you are like most teens, you figure it's not that unusual to be a little curious about the world of the occult. You might wonder what exactly happens in a séance or get a kick out of reading each other's horoscopes. Do you look at reading Tarot cards, consulting a psychic or using a Ouija board as just innocent fun? A word to the wise, "Be Careful!" Anything beyond curiosity can be dangerous. When people begin to believe in this darkness, it's like playing with fire and a lot of people have gotten burned over the years because of it.

In fact, if the devil had a workshop, the occult would be it. When people begin to put their faith in these mysterious powers, it can change their whole perspective of who they are, and on life itself. This false faith in "shadows" clouds their judgment. Without realizing it, people can easily become trapped in cults or organizations that control their minds and block any grace from God needed to fight their way out. They forget that in our faith we believe that in His own death and resurrection, Christ delivered us from the power of darkness and sin. Unfortunately, falling victim to the power of darkness by dabbling in the occult can all begin very innocently, maybe with just a game.

You can take some comfort in knowing that ours isn't the first generation to be confronted with this false teaching. In fact, Paul's Letter to the Colossians written over 2,000 years ago was sent to address the very same problem. Apparently, there were "teachers" in the new church in Colossae who were misrepresenting the fullness of Jesus' redemption and suggesting that "the worship of angels" was needed to fully attain salvation. Paul writes a direct response refuting these teachings as "shadows of things to come." Paul tells the Colossians that "reality belongs to Christ" and that any other teaching is contrary to the full faith in Him – the only thing needed for salvation.

Throughout the 4 chapters of this beautiful letter, Paul makes it very clear that the only way to salvation is through Jesus. He reminds them that living a Christ-like life is the best evidence of that faith. Paul tells the Colossians to keep focused on things that are of Christ and not on the things of this world. When we do the same, He will shower His grace upon us giving us the strength we need to avoid any temptation in our lives – no matter how curious we may be.

Interesting Fact: Paul did not establish the church in Colossae nor is there evidence that he ever visited there.

Bonus Point: Colossians is one of 4 letters written by Paul when he was in prison. Name one of the other three.