

“Thanking God for the Gospel”

Colossians 1: 1-8

October 13-14, 2018

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Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

(Colossians. 1:1-8; English Standard Version)

Context of Colossians:

- Author: **PAUL**
- Audience: **CHURCH AT COLOSSAE**

I: Gospel Fruit #1: **FAITH**

- Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus... (Colossians 1:4)
- Takeaway #1:
 - **The Gospel Changes the Foundation of Our Lives.**

II: Gospel Fruit #2: **LOVE**

- . . . and of the love that you have for all the saints. (Colossians 1:4)
- Takeaway #2:
 - **The gospel changes the way we treat others.**

III: Gospel Fruit #3: HOPE

- . . . because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. (Colossians 1:5)
- Takeaway #3:
 - The gospel changes what we look forward to.

BIG TAKEAWAY:

- The reception of the gospel is such a great cause for thanksgiving to God because the gospel changes everything in our lives.