

Colossians -6

With the help of commentaries, historic text materials, encyclopaedia articles, journal notes, etc. prepare written answers for the following questions. Yes, write them out (typed!) and in a way to make a permanent contribution to your own research. This will be discussion material for the class that meets on this day.

- (1) Locate the city of Colosse and determine its social, economic, and political importance in New Testament times.,
- (2) Tell how the church came to be founded at Colosse and what its relationship was with the Apostle Paul.
- (3) Determine when and from where the Epistle was written and what purpose it was to serve the church.
- (4) What is gnosticism and what are aspects of gnostic ideals that are seen in the problems of the Colossian church?
- (5) What questions have been raised about the authenticity and authorship of the Epistle? How do you answer these things?
- (6) Who were the Ebionites? Elkasites? Does it appear that any of their doctrines are reflected in the problems of the Colossian church?

b. The text questions:

For each day when a passage of text is due to be discussed, the student will be given a list of questions to think through..not necessarily to write out but to think through. These will form the basis for class discussion and this discussion will lead to our conclusions and applications. In addition the student will prepare five questions of one's own origin for the rest of the class. These five need to be written down (not the answers, just the questions) so that when called upon the student will have an appropriate response. And the purpose is to have the student really think about and apply the text.

And that is the work of the quarter! Wow!