

II. Study in the Colossian letter

A. The Introductory section 1:1-12

1. The Apostolic Greeting (1:1-2)

Paul's concern for the Colossian assembly is based on his appointment by Christ as a missionary and his knowledge of the enrichments conferred by grace. Note in particular to whom he writes, how he identifies himself, the tokens of his greeting and the role assigned to the Father and the Son.

2. The Apostolic Thanks (1:3-8)

Paul's concern is expressed in his understanding of the nature of the believers and their hearty response to the Gospel message...a response that shows the gratitude of emotion and commitment. Note the role of thanks and petition, the frequency of prayer and the basis of thanks as well as the comment on the work of the Gospel and the commendation of the ministry of Epaphras.

3. The Apostolic Prayer 1:9-12