

## Study 9

### Colossians

#### *Overview*

The Church in Colossae is reassured of their perfect fulness in Christ alone, who is supreme over all creation.

Paul intercedes for them, desiring their firmness the fulness of spiritual life in Christ and his work.

#### *Before Beginning*

Someone asks, “Why are you so exclusive? Why can’t you acknowledge the spiritual traditions of others in your teaching?” How do you answer?

### Colossians

#### *Context and Situation:*

*Philm 1-2, 10f, 23; Eph 6:21-22; Col 1:4-6, 7-8, 9-10; 4:7f, 17*

#### *Occasion and Purpose:*

*Col 1:3-7; 2:4, 8, 11-13, 16, 18-19, 20-23*

#### *Key ideas:*

Prepare to share what you learn from the following passages. Read and note key ideas:

*Col 1:1-14;*

*15-23;*

*1:24-2:5;*

*2:6-15,*

16-23;

3:1-17;

3:18-4:1

## Christ and Creation

How does the gospel affirm the divine fulness of Christ, in creation and new creation?  
(cf BST Commentary "Colossians 2:8-15")

How are contemporary Christians under pressure in the church to submit to false teachings like those in Colossae? What are the dangers inherent in these modern aberrations?

How does proclaiming the Lordship of Christ address those pressures and teachings?

How should Christians manifest their citizenship of heaven?

### *Extension:*

Read 'Colossians, Epistle to the', 'Philemon, Epistle to' and 'Fulness' in the *New Bible Dictionary*

### *Homework:*

Read Philemon.