

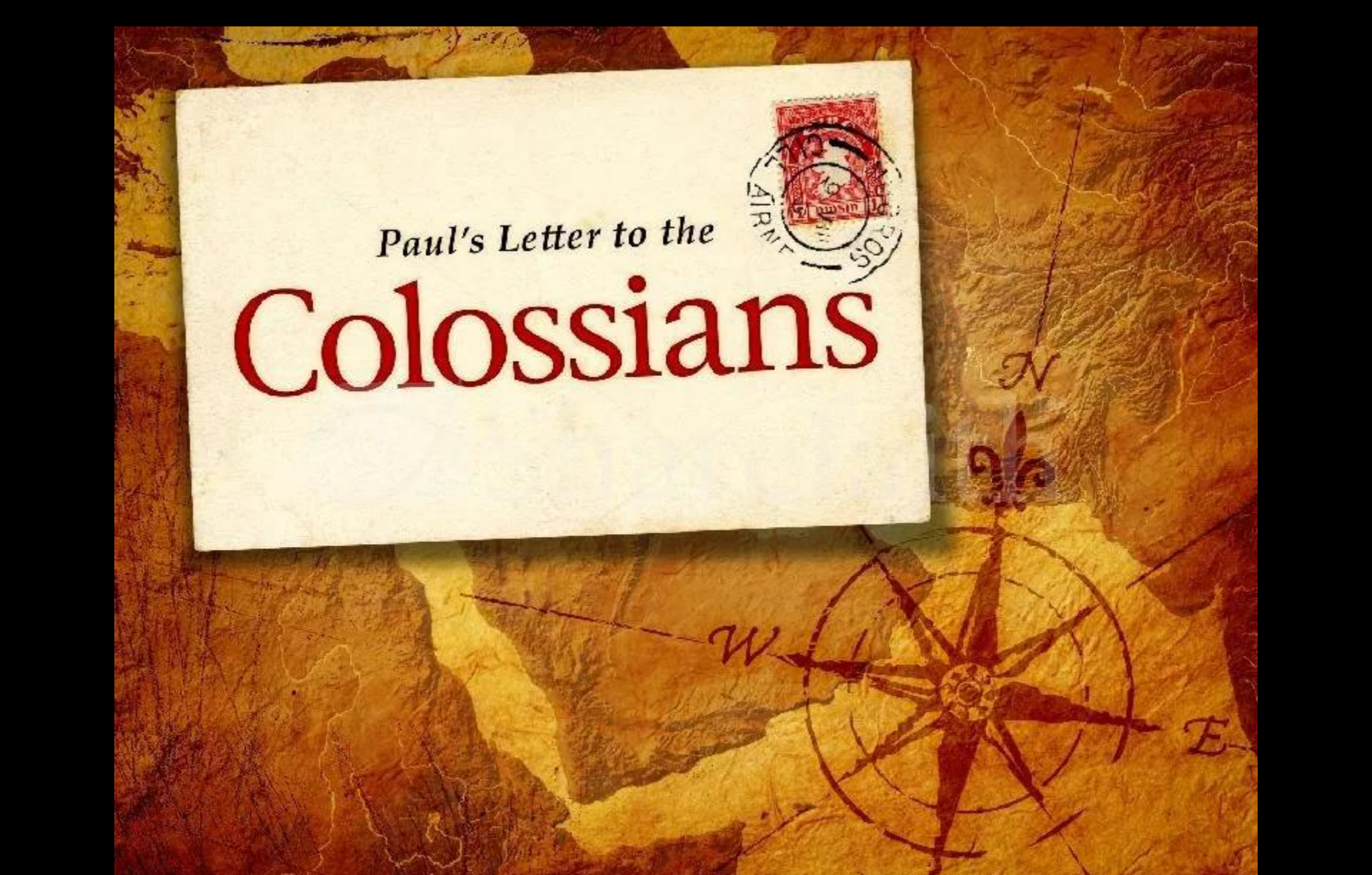
An aerial view of Prague, Czech Republic, during sunset. The Vltava River flows through the city, with the Charles Bridge in the foreground. The city is filled with historic buildings, including a prominent church with a green dome. The sky is filled with soft, golden light from the setting sun.

**WELCOME**  
to the  
**International Baptist Church**  
of Prague

**SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2020**

A scenic landscape featuring a range of snow-capped mountains in the background, a dense forest of evergreen trees in the middle ground, and a calm lake in the foreground that perfectly reflects the mountains and trees. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

# SERMON



*Paul's Letter to the*  
**Colossians**

The background of the book cover is a textured, aged parchment in shades of brown and gold. A red compass rose is drawn in the lower right quadrant, with the letters 'N', 'W', and 'E' marking the cardinal directions. In the upper right corner, there is a red circular postmark with the text 'AIR MAIL' and '505' around the perimeter. A red postage stamp is partially visible within the postmark.

# Colossians 1:1-2: Introduction

# COLOSSAE – THE PLACE



# COLOSSIANS – THE CHURCH

## Not personally known by Paul 1:9, 2:1

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you...

I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally.

## Founded by Epaphras 1:7-8

You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf...

## Letter from prison 4:18

I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand.  
Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

# COLOSSIANS – THE CONTEXT

## False teaching

“Any teaching that in any way detracts from Christ’s exclusive role is by definition both wrong and ineffective. The teachers themselves are probably not denying that Christ was central to God’s saving purposes. They seem rather to be arguing that certain practices must be added on in order to achieve true spiritual fulfillment. But, for Paul, in this case, addition means subtraction: one cannot “add” to Christ without, in effect, subtracting from his exclusive place in creation and in salvation history.”

— Douglas J. Moo

**Colossians 2:9-10:** For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and in Christ you have been brought to fullness.

## COLOSSIANS - THE GREETING 1:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,  
and Timothy our brother,

<sup>2</sup> To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful  
brothers and sisters in Christ: Grace and peace to  
you from God our Father.



## COLOSSIANS - THE GREETING 1:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, <sup>2</sup> To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ: Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

DANIEL 4:1

Nebuchadnezzar the king,  
To all peoples, nations, and  
languages that dwell in all the  
earth:  
Peace be multiplied to you.



# COLOSSIANS - THE GREETING 1:1-2

## Paul's apostolic credentials 1:1

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother...

**1 Corinthians 15:4-8:** ...[Jesus] was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve.

After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, **and last of all he appeared to me also**, as to one abnormally born.

# COLOSSIANS - THE GREETING 1:1-2

## Faithful Church 1:2

To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ...

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people

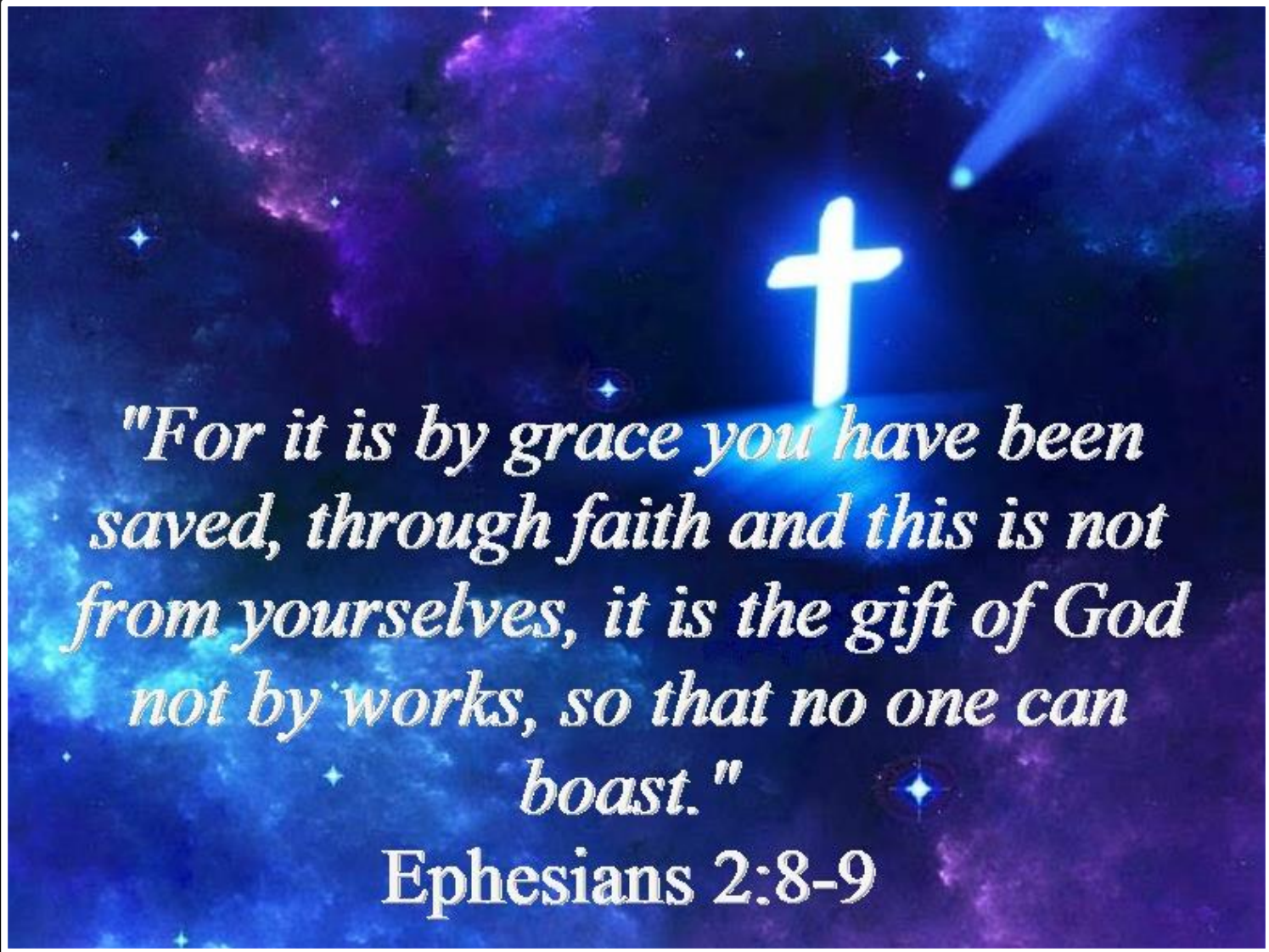
Colossians 1:3-4



© George Welty

# COLOSSIANS - THE GREETING 1:1-2

Grace and peace to you from God our Father.



*"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so that no one can boast."*

Ephesians 2:8-9

# COLOSSIANS - THE GREETING 1:1-2

Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

*The peace of God,  
which transcends all understanding,  
will guard your hearts & minds.*

Philippians 4:7



# Colossians - the STRUCTURE

## Chapters 1-2

### SUPREMACY OF CHRIST

1.1-14

1:15-2.3

2.4-23

Introduction

Pre-eminence  
of Jesus

Freedom in  
Jesus

Doctrine – What Christ did for us

## Chapters 3-4

### SUBMISSION TO CHRIST

3.1-4

3.5 – 4.6

4.7-18

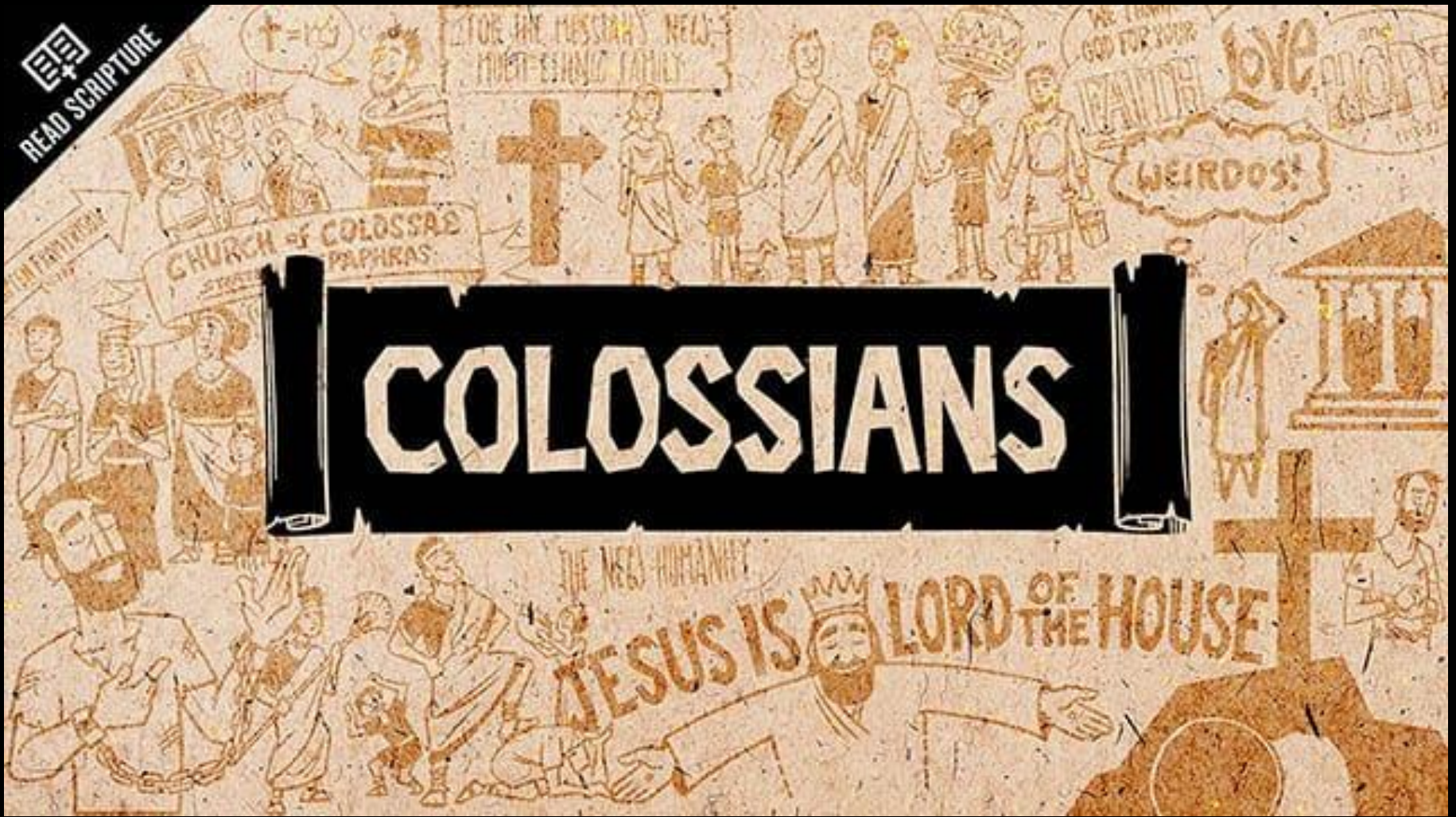
Position of  
Believers

Lifestyle of  
Believers

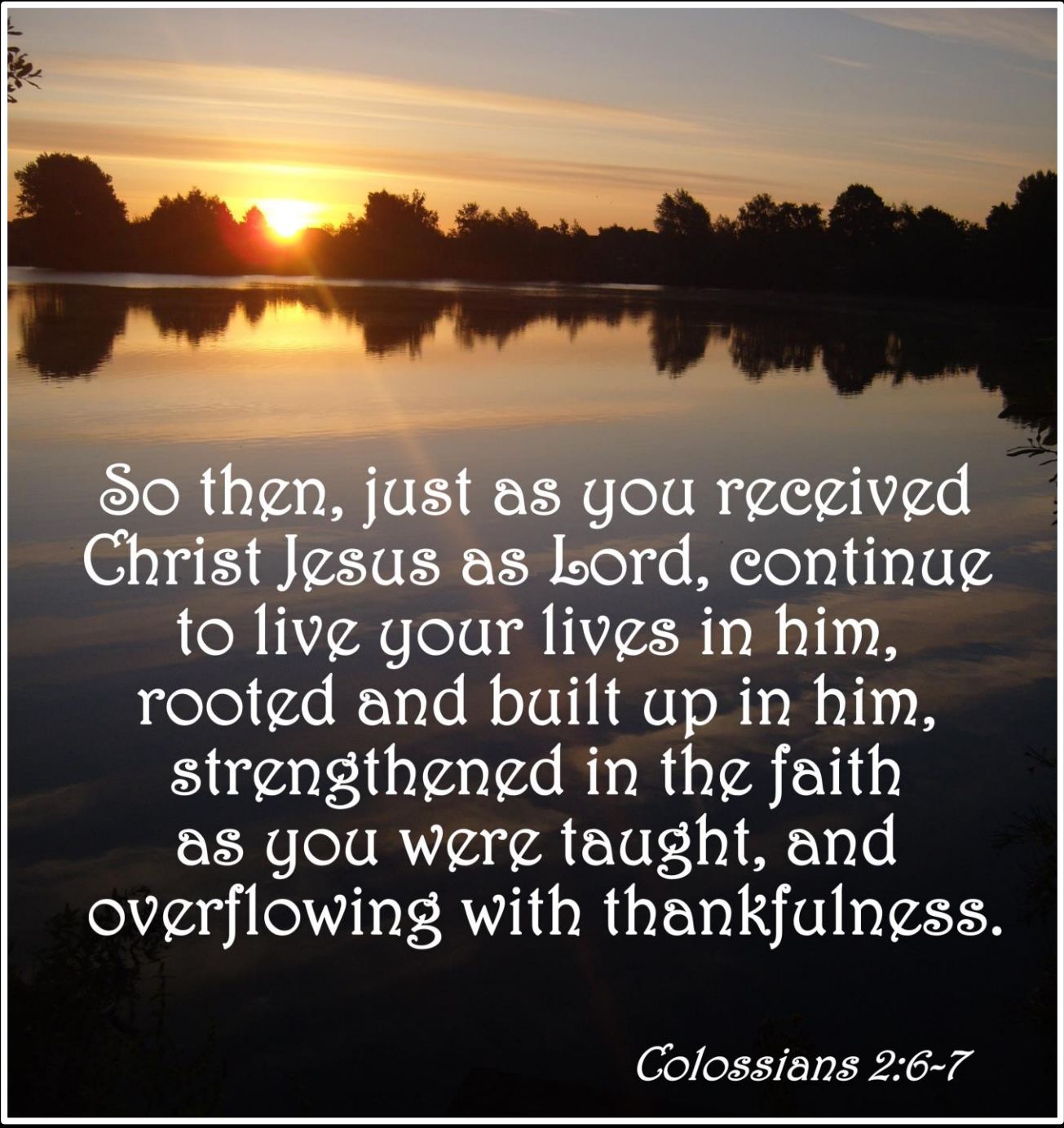
Conclusion

Practice – What Christ does through us

READ SCRIPTURE



<https://www.bible.com/en-GB/videos/3103-colossians-the-bible-project>

A serene sunset over a calm lake. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. Silhouettes of trees line the far shore. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

So then, just as you received  
Christ Jesus as Lord, continue  
to live your lives in him,  
rooted and built up in him,  
strengthened in the faith  
as you were taught, and  
overflowing with thankfulness.

*Colossians 2:6-7*

To  
God  
be the Glory!