

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 18 OCTOBER 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. Overlaid on the center of the image is the word "SERMON" in large, bold, yellow capital letters.

SERMON

Colossians 2:6-15 ESV

2 ⁶ Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

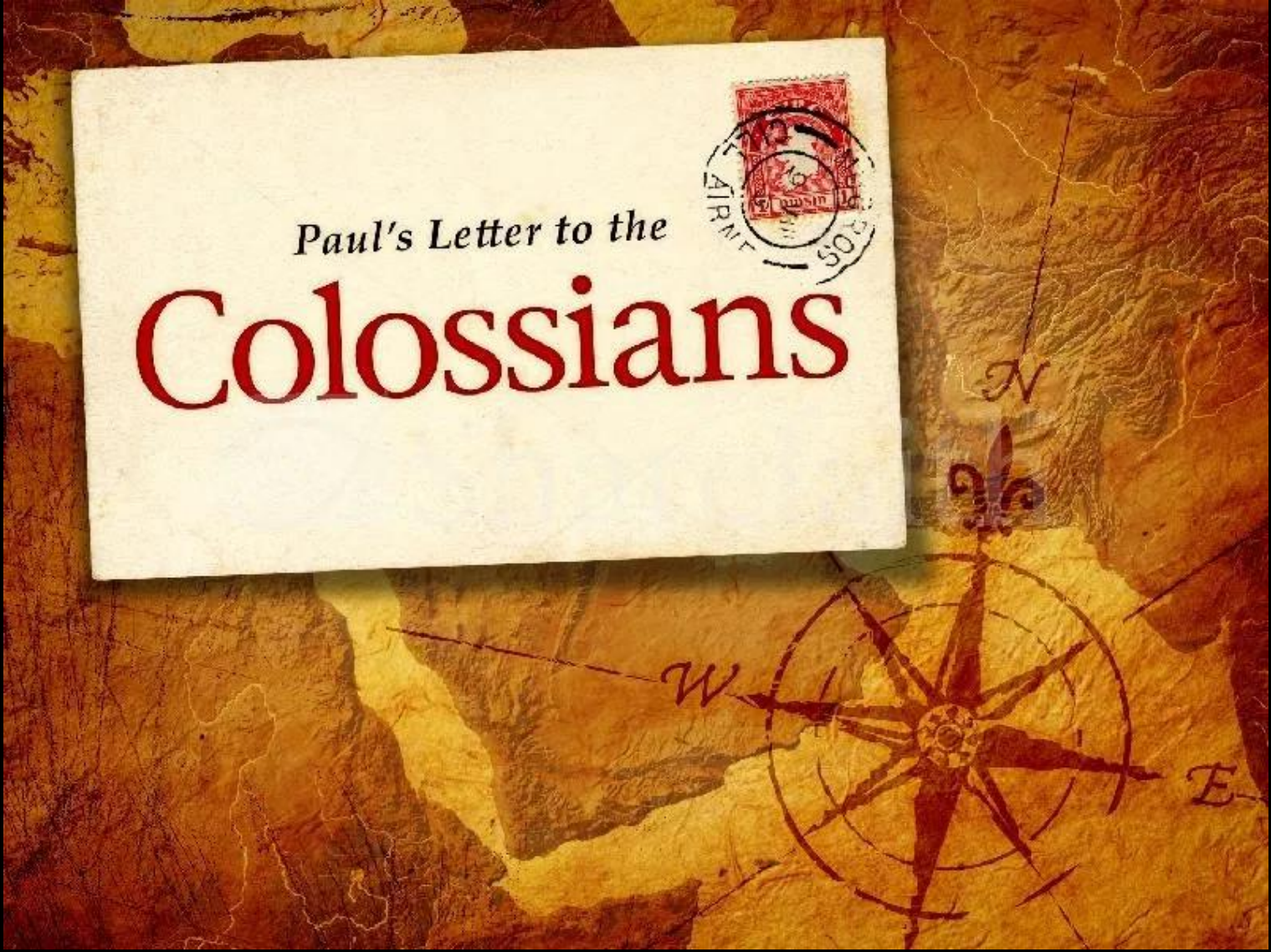
⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

Colossians 2:6-15 ESV

¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.



Paul's Letter to the
Colossians

Colossians 2:6-15
“Fullness in Christ”

“In Him” in Colossians

1:14

2:10

1:16

2:11

1:19

2:12

1:22

2:12

2:3

2:15

2:6

3:20

2:7

4:7

2:9

4:17

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Four Essentials in Colossians 2:6-7

We should be:

- Persistently Faithful to Him
- Deeply Grounded in Him
- Durably Convinced about Him
- Consistently Grateful to Him

False Teaching



False Teaching Equation

$$\text{Jesus} + \text{“x”} = \text{Jesus} - \text{“x”}$$

Colossians 2:11-15

Four Images

- Spiritual Circumcision
- Burial and Rising with Christ
- Cancellation of Debt
- Victory over Spiritual Enemies

Spiritual Circumcision

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will punish all those who are circumcised merely in the flesh— ²⁶ Egypt, Judah, Edom, the sons of Ammon, Moab, and all who dwell in the desert who cut the corners of their hair, for all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in heart.”

Buried and Raised with Christ



The Cancellation of Debt

“See to it that we do not again become debtors to the old contract. Christ came once; he found the certificate of our ancestral indebtedness which Adam wrote and signed. Adam contracted the debt; by our subsequent sins we increased the amount owed. In this contract are written a curse, and sin, and death, and the condemnation of the Law. Christ took all these away and pardoned them...

The Cancellation of Debt

...Saint Paul cries out and says: 'The decree of our sins which was against us, he has taken it completely away, nailing it to the cross.' He did not say, 'erasing the decree,' nor did he say 'blotting it out,' but 'nailing it to the cross,' so that no trace of it might remain. This is why he did not erase it but tore it to pieces."

-- John Chrysostom

A Victory over Spiritual Enemies

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39

To
God
be the Glory!