

Intro - Last week we reviewed the background against which this epistle was written.

I. Outline

Note the simple outline

1. Salutation – vs. 1-2

2. Christ: Preeminent in personal relationship – 1:3-29

3. Christ: Preeminent in doctrine – 2:1-3:4

4. Christ: Preeminent in ethics – 3:5-4:6

5. Conclusion and Greetings – 4:7-18

II. Salutation – 1:1-2

Vs. 1 – Paul is careful to include his title of Apostle in his salutation.

Vs. 2 – In the second verse he recognizes the brethren to whom the letter is sent.

1. Saints _____

2. Faithful brethren _____

He then offers a blessing that only God provides and one that is most precious.

Grace _____

Peace _____

Of course, these gifts (grace and peace) are in marked contrast with what these people have been experiencing with their new teachers and new doctrine.

No religion can improve on the gospel of grace (God offering forgiveness and perfection based on faith in Jesus Christ expressed in repentance and baptism).

The gospel of Christ declares 3 simple truths:

1. All are _____
_____ Romans 3:23; 6:23

2. No one _____
_____ Galatians 2:16a

3. The only _____
_____ Acts 4:12; Gal. 2:16b

God is the _____ of all men, but the _____ of His adopted children, Christians.

