

## A PRISONER'S PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Colossians 1:3-8)

### I. AN INTRODUCTION (1:1-2)

### II. PRAYERS FOR THE COLOSSIANS (1:3-14)

#### A. Paul and Timothy were very grateful for fellow believers. (vv. 3-4)

1. The *meaning* of “*give thanks*” is literally giving thanks due to \_\_\_\_\_ for God’s \_\_\_\_\_ . (v. 3)
2. The *frequency* of their thanksgiving was \_\_\_\_\_ (Gr. present tense).
3. The *reality* of their gratitude is seen by the \_\_\_\_\_ mood in the Greek; this was a \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. The *object* of their thankfulness was \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ .
5. The *circumstances* surrounding their gratitude was \_\_\_\_\_ .
6. The *expression* of their thankfulness was evident by them “ \_\_\_\_\_  
*for you.*”
7. The *cause* of their gratitude was by hearing of these believers’ “ \_\_\_\_\_ *in Jesus Christ,*”  
and of their “ \_\_\_\_\_ *for all the saints.*” (v. 4)

**B. Paul and Timothy were also very grateful for the Gospel of grace. (vv. 5-6)**

1. The Gospel is the reason for their \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. (vv. 4-6)

\* What can we learn about this hope?

-Its meaning:

-Its definitiveness:

-Its security:

-Its application:

-Its place:

2. The Gospel is the destiny-changing, life-transforming \_\_\_\_\_ these Colossians had \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 5)

3. The Gospel involves the specific \_\_\_\_\_ sinners need to hear and believe in order to have \_\_\_\_\_ they are going to heaven in the future.

4. The Gospel has in it the inherent power to be constantly \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ . (v. 6)

**C. In addition, Paul and Timothy were very grateful for other faithful witnesses and teachers. (vv. 7-8)**

1. The human channel who taught these believers the Gospel of grace was \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 7)

2. This man was a “\_\_\_\_\_ *fellow* \_\_\_\_\_” to Paul and Timothy.

3. He was also a “\_\_\_\_\_ *of Jesus Christ*” on the Colossians’ behalf.

4. Finally, Epaphras informed Paul and Timothy of the Colossian’s “\_\_\_\_\_ *in the* \_\_\_\_\_.” (v. 8)

\* How does all of this personally apply to you?