

## SATAN'S ATTACK ON THE GOSPEL

(Colossians 1:15)

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

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

### III. THE PREEMINENCE OF JESUS CHRIST'S POSITION (1:15-18)

\* Satan's attack on the Gospel.

#### A. Understanding the Gnostic Heresy that was trying to infiltrate the church in Colossae

1. Regarding **matter**... the Gnostics taught that matter was \_\_\_\_\_ and that God and spirit were \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Regarding **God the Father**... the Gnostics taught that while God was spirit, He was \_\_\_\_\_ from creation.
3. Regarding **angels**... the Gnostics taught that there were good and evil angels, and that the good angels were the \_\_\_\_\_ to God who could break through and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Regarding **Jesus Christ**... the Gnostics taught that He was the most powerful, good, and intelligent \_\_\_\_\_ (aeon/angel) in the universe who did NOT possess a truly \_\_\_\_\_, and who alone could not save.
5. Regarding **creation**... the Gnostics taught that matter was created by \_\_\_\_\_ emanations and not by God; consequently, \_\_\_\_\_ of creation was \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Regarding **being filled (the pleroma)** ... the Gnostics taught that \_\_\_\_\_ offered the \_\_\_\_\_ of truth and spiritual insight/experience.

## **B. Understanding the Preeminence of Jesus Christ's Position (1:15-18)**

### 1. Displayed in SALVATION (1:14)

\* How does Satan attack this?

### 2. Displayed in Christ's PERSON (1:15)

a. In relationship to the Father Jesus Christ is the “\_\_\_\_\_” of the \_\_\_\_\_ God.

\* What does this mean?

b. This statement underscores the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ. (v. 15a)

\* Why does Satan attack this truth?

c. Jesus Christ is the \_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_ creation. (v. 15b)

\* How does this personally apply to you today?