

**Part 1 (1:1-12):** Greeting, thanksgiving and prayer.

**Part 2 (1:13-2:5):** Supremacy of Christ and Paul's ministry.

**Part 3 (2:6-23):** Concern for church that they remain free in Christ.

**Part 4 (3:1-4:6):** Call to holy living.

24 I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. 25 I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, 26 the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. 27 To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

28 It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. 29 For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me.

1 For I want you to know how much I am struggling for you [agon - great a conflict I have for you], and for those in Laodicea, and for all who have not seen me face to face. 2 I want their hearts to be encouraged and united in love, so that they may have all the riches of assured understanding and have the knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ himself, 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. 4 I am saying this so that no one may deceive you with plausible arguments. 5 For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, and I rejoice to see your morale [good order/how disciplined/living as you should/staying in position] and the firmness of your faith in Christ.