**Sermon Notes**

***Above All***

**The Preeminence of Christ in the Book of Colossians**

**“Two Verses and Four Words”**

**Colossians 1: 1-2a**

**In the book of Colossians, we are invited to live out our lives as a new creation of God in the freedom of Jesus who is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ all.**

**Rejection of God’s word - as well as teaching and belief that is counter to it- is harmful and dangerous to the health of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Paul writes this letter in pastoral love, concern, and encouragement and challenges the Colossians to not compromise and misunderstand the work of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by embracing the lies and false teachings of the culture around them.**

**In verse 1, right at the outset, Paul identifies himself as an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**The word apostle (Greek: ἀπόστολος) means to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out, similar to a messenger or delegate of a king.**

**Apostles had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ authority given to them by Jesus (Luke 6; Matthew 10).**

**Paul didn’t give himself this unique authority to speak on behalf of God, rather it was given to him by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God (v.1).**

**In verse 2 Paul addresses those in the Colossian church as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**The word saints (Greek: ἁγίοις) means “set apart” and “made \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”.**

**The Colossian church has been called away from who they once were and sin they once knew and loved, and now are called to Jesus who has freed them and given them a new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**The Bible teaches that everyone has one of two identities: we are “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” or we are “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”.**

**We all inherit from the fall of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a certain sin nature and a natural inclination, drawing, disposition not toward God but rather away from Him, His commands, His words, and thus a relationship with Him.**

**To be “in Christ” means that a person has a new identity and a new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ before God.**

**Our uniting with Christ is the vehicle means for our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

***Blanks:*** *above; church; Jesus; apostle; sent; unique & unrepeatable; will; saints; holy; identity; in Adam & in Christ; Adam; representative; salvation*