GRACE NOTES

Sunday, October 1, 2017
Series: Colossians—Jesus Is Enough
Message: Praise from Prison
Scripture: Colossians 1:1-2; 4:18; 1:15-20

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ: Grace and peace to you from God our Father. (Colossians 1:1-2)

I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you. (Colossians 4:18)

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.
He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.
For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.
(Galatians 1:15-20)

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Study Notes:

This is the first week of October, and for many of us the year seems to be moving along very rapidly.
Name one great blessing from this year so far.
Name one great heartache from this year so far.
Name one personal accomplishment from this year.
Name one thing you'd like to accomplish before year's end.

Thinking back to Sunday's service, what encouraged you, inspired you, challenged you, or changed your thinking?

The letter to the Colossians was written from prison, yet Paul expresses thankfulness and praise. Why do you think this is?

How does Jesus make the invisible God visible in our day?

Read Hebrews 1:1-3.
What similarities do you see between this passage and verses 15-20 in Colossians 1?

Why does it matter if we believe Jesus was God with us or that He was just a good man, faithful prophet, and miracle worker?

Read Matthew 14:22-33.
What does this verse teach us about who Jesus is?

How do we see the disciples respond to this?

Does Jesus try to prevent them from worshiping Him? If not, why not?

Read John 10:22-33.
What does Jesus claim in verses 28-30?

What was the Jews response to Jesus' words? (see vv. 31-33)

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"If Jesus is not God, then there is no Christianity, and we who worship Him are nothing more than idolaters. Conversely, if He is God, those who say He was merely a good man, or even the best of men, are blasphemers. More serious still, if He is not God, then He is a blasphemer in the fullest sense of the word. If He is not God, He is not even good." — J. Oswald Chambers