

# God's Saints

Col. 1:2,12,26

## Introduction:

- A. Colossians addressed to “the saints and faithful brethren”.
  - 1. HAGIOS translated “saints” 62 times, “holy” 161 times.
  - 2. Kindred words: “sanctify” (to set apart), “sanctuary (set-apart place)”.
  - 3. Not made saints after death.
    - a. N.T. churches made up of saints. (v. 2; cf. 1 Cor. 1:2, Phil. 1:1)
    - b. Paul put saints in prison. (Acts 26:10).
  - 4. Not perfect people (cf. “He is no saint”)
- B. Colossians 1 points out several *distinctions* that sets saints apart from rest of humanity.

## Discussion:

### II. Their *Relationship* Sets Them Apart. -- “His Saints”. (v. 26).

- A. “God’s own possession”. (ASV) - “own special people” (NKJV). (1 Pet. 2:9).
- B. Have been set-apart into:
  - 1. Christ. (v. 2; cf. Phil. 1:1).
    - a. Into whom were baptized. (Rom. 6:3).
    - b. In whom have redemption. (v. 14; cf. 1 Cor. 6:19; Tit. 2:14).
    - c. In whom have forgiveness. (v. 14; cf. Acts 2:38).
    - d. By whom are reconciled (fellowship). (v. 21; cf. 1 John 1:7; 2:1).
  - 2. Light - kingdom (vv. 12-13) or church. (cf. 1 Cor. 1:2).

### III. Their *Thinking* Sets Them Apart. -- “Once were alienated...in your mind” (v. 21).

- A. Mind now on things above. (Col. 3:1,2)
- B. Thoughts now God’s thoughts. (cf. Isa. 55:6-7).
- C. Hearts purified by faith and obedience. (Acts 15:9; 1 Pet. 1:22).
- D. View of things different from world’s view.
  - 1. The gospel. (1 Cor. 1:18).
  - 2. Life-style. (1 Pet. 4:4).

### IV. Their *Works* Set Them Apart. -- “Once were alienated... by wicked works” (v. 21).

- A. No long live as sons of disobedience. (Col. 3:5-17).
- B. Behave as “becometh for saints.” (Eph. 5:3; Rom. 16:2)

### V. Their *Hope* Sets Them Apart. -- “The hope of the gospel” (v. 23).

- A. Not shared by others. (1 Thess. 4:13).
- B. Based on facts of gospel -- D.B.R. of Christ (1 Thess 4:14; 1 Cor. 15:1-9, 19-20; 1 Pet. 1:3,4).
- C. Based on obeying the truth. (1 Pet. 1:21-25)
- D. Can give a reason for it - not wishful thinking (1 Pet. 3:15).

## Conclusion:

- A. Are you one of God’s Saints?
- B. Are you thinking, acting, and hoping like as is fitting for saints?