

A Study of Ephesians

- Ephesians was written by Paul while he was in prison (3:1; 4:1).
- The church was likely established by the work of _____ and _____ while they were there (Acts 18:18-28).
- The purpose of Ephesians is to emphasize the great value of being in _____ and His _____.
- “Body” is used ___ times – 1:23; 2:16; 3:6; 4:4, 12, 16 (twice); 5:23, 30.
- “Church” is used ___ times – 1:22; 3:10, 21; 5:23-25, 27, 29, 32.

Chapter 1:1-14 – Reasons Why All Should Be In Christ

1. Because all spiritual _____ are in Christ (1:3).
2. Because in Christ we can be _____ and _____ (1:4).
3. Because in Christ we are _____ into God’s family (1:5).
4. Because in Christ we have _____ (1:7).
5. Because all of God’s _____ is fulfilled in Christ (1:8-10).
6. Because in Christ we have an _____ (1:11-12).
7. Because in Christ is the _____ and the _____ (1:13-14).

Chapter 1:15-23 – Paul’s Prayer for the Ephesians

1. Paul was _____ for his brethren (1:15-16).
2. Paul wanted those Christians to have the proper _____ (1:17-18).
3. Paul wanted them to understand their _____ and God’s _____ and _____ (1:18-19).
4. God’s _____ is seen in the resurrection of Christ (1:20-21).
5. The church is the _____ of Christ (1:22-23).

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Chapter 2 – Before and After Christ

2:1-3, 11-12 – The state of the Ephesians before their conversion to Christ.

- “Dead” simply means that they had been separated from God by their sins (Isa. 59:1-2; Eze. 18:4, 20).
- Before their conversion they lived according to:
 - The world – James 4:4.
 - The devil – 2 Corinthians 4:4.
 - Disobedience – rebellion against God’s will.
 - Lusts – no restraint in fulfilling fleshly desires.
- God made the covenant with the nation of Israel – Deuteronomy 5:1-2; 14:2.

2:4-10, 13-22 – The post-conversion Ephesians.

- What is about to be described is based on God’s abundant mercy and great love.
- They had been quickened (made alive) by God’s grace. This new condition of life follows one’s baptism into the death of Christ (Rom. 6:3-4).
- The emphasis in this section is on the grace of God:
 - It is what saves us (v. 5).
 - It has placed us in Christ (v. 6).
 - It is exceedingly rich (v. 7).
 - It is the gift of God (v. 8).
 - We did not earn it (v. 9).
 - It should lead us to good works (v. 10).
- What the Ephesians gained in Christ:
 - Brought near (v. 13).
 - Peace (v. 14, 17).
 - The old law was taken out of the way (v. 14-15).
 - Reconciliation (v. 16).
 - Access to God (v.18).
 - Citizenship (v. 19).
 - A strong foundation (v. 20).
 - A holy place of worship (v. 21).
 - A habitation for God (v. 22).

Chapter 3 – God’s Eternal Purpose

3:1-7 – Understanding the mystery.

- Paul had been selected by God to take the gospel to the Gentiles (Acts 26:16-18).
- This was accomplished through revelation (1 Cor. 2:9-13).
- The revelation that was given to Paul by God can be understood by us when we read it (v. 4)! God has revealed His will by men who were inspired by the Spirit to speak and write (v. 5).
- The “mystery” is not that the Gentiles could be saved by God, but that they should be fellow-heirs with the Jews.

3:8-12 – God’s eternal purpose is fulfilled in the church.

- Paul did not seek the glory in his work – Psalm 34:18; 51:17; Luke 17:10.
- The “scope” of the gospel is “all men” (v. 9).
- The church displays the “manifold” wisdom of God. Manifold means, “multi-colored or greatly diversified.”
- If the church is a display of the wisdom of God, who are we to change it?
- What was accomplished in the life and death of Christ was not an accident (v. 11).
- In Christ we have:
 - Boldness – Hebrews 4:14-16
 - Access – Romans 5:1-2
 - Confidence – 1 John 3:21; 5:14

3:13-21 – A prayer for the Ephesians.

- Don’t give up because of what he was going through – 13.
- Be strengthened in the inner man – 14-16. Colossians 1:9-12.
- He wanted Christ to dwell in their hearts – 17.
- He wanted them rooted and grounded in love – 17.
- He wanted them to understand the vast expanse of the love of God – 18.
- He wanted them to know the love of Christ that passes our comprehension – 19.
- He wanted them to have confidence in the ability of God – 20.
- He wanted them to glorify God – 21.

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Chapter 4 – Unity in the church

4:1-3 – Unity can only be accomplished when our attitudes are right.

- *“To walk worthily is to exhibit the kind of life that would do honor to the holy religion of Christ which they had accepted.”* JB Coffman
- Lowliness – our evaluation of ourselves in view of our righteous and holy God.
- Meekness – the spirit of gentleness.
- Longsuffering – this word is frequently used in connection with God’s patience with men. *“A Christian who is always up-tight about the mistakes of others can create a disaster in any congregation.”* JB Coffman
- Forbearing – grant to others the right to “belong” that you claim for yourself.

4:4-6 – Unity can only be accomplished when the right doctrine is taught.

- One body – 1:22-23; 2:16; 5:23, 32.
- One Spirit – the Holy Spirit is the revealer of God’s truth (2 Pet. 1:20-21). This leaves no room for modern day prophets.
- One hope – eternal life in Christ.
- One Lord – one source of authority in the world (Matt. 28:18).
- One faith – one system of belief that includes all the other “ones” here listed.
- One baptism – there are several baptism mentioned in the NT. However, there is only one that saves from sin – Acts 19:1-7.
- One God – 1 Corinthians 8:4-6.

4:7-16 – Walk worthy by fulfilling your responsibility in the Lord.

- These verses how God provided grace (favor) to the church so that they could achieve and maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- God provided various areas of work in the church:
 - Apostles and prophets – addressed in 2:20. This group was required in the first century for the effective founding and spreading of the church.
 - Evangelists, pastors, teachers – this group is still needed in the church today.
 - The organization of the Lord’s church did not develop or evolve over time, but was given from the very beginning.
- The purposes are revealed in verse 12 and explained in verses 13-16.

4:17-19 – Christians do not walk as the world walks.

4:20-32 – Characteristics of the Christian walk.

- The Christian walk is directly connected to learning (v. 20), hearing and teaching (v. 21) and renewal of the mind (v.22).

- Do's of the Christian walk:
 - Put away lying, speak the truth.
 - Work with your hands and give to the needy.
 - Speak for edification.
 - Be kind, tenderhearted, forgiving.
- Do not's of the Christian walk:
 - Be angry and sin not.
 - Do not give place to the devil.
 - Steal no more.
 - No corrupt communication.
 - Do not grieve the Holy Spirit.

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Chapter 5 – What it means to be followers of God

5:1-13 – Follow God by staying out of darkness.

- Our loving service to God is compared to Christ's loving service to man – sacrificial.
- John 6:38
- The Christian life is to be a life of sacrificial service – Romans 12:1-2.
- Verses 3-5 list several things that are not becoming of saints.
 - Fornication – broadest Greek term for sexual immorality.
 - Uncleaness – lewdness, moral pollution.
 - Covetousness – a combination of two Greek words and means, “to have more, to hoard.”
 - Filthiness – indecency, impropriety.
 - Foolish talking – the type of talking that shows someone to be foolish.
 - Jestings – saying whatever has to be said to get a laugh.
- Verses 6-7 instruct the Christian not to live according to the philosophy of the world.
- Verses 8-10 – John 3:19-21. Our main concern needs to be what is acceptable to the Lord, not what is politically correct.
- It is not enough to not participate in evil (v. 11-13). We have a responsibility to *expose* (NKJV) the unfruitful works of darkness.
- *“If we are to stand up for Christ we will not compromise with evil and “blend in” with the crowd. Neither can we silently ignore evil when we repent, but we must expose sin in such a way that others will not be misled by it.”*

5:14-21 – We must wake up and use our time wisely.

- The danger of “falling asleep” spiritually is a reality (vs. 14-16). The Holy Spirit states that that would be unwise (v.17).

- Circumspectly – accurately, exactly.
- Verse 16 teaches us that we must make the most of every opportunity.
- Verses 18-19 are parallel with Colossians 3:16. We are to be filled with the Spirit by allowing the word of Christ to dwell in us richly.
- This whole section of Scripture is instructing us to be in control of our lives by putting off the old man. That is accomplished by being filled with the Spirit.
- Verse 19 shows the instrument to be used in worship – the heart.

5:22-33 – Husband and wife, Christ and the church.

- Husband to the wife:
 - Lead – 5:23.
 - Love – 5:25, 28-29.
 - Be joined – 5:30-31.
- Wife to the husband:
 - Subject – 5:24 (to place in order).
 - Reverence – 5:33(honor).

Chapter 6 – Domestic Relationships, Christian Armor, Closing

6:1-4 – Parent/Child relationship.

- *“The salvation of society is in the family and the reconstruction of family virtues, parental authority, and filial obedience. The family is the nucleus of all society. You can have no prosperous state unless the family is healthy. You can have no effective church unless the family is sound...The family is the organic cell from which all human societies are constructed.”* JB Coffman on Ephesians 6:1
- “In the Lord” – Are children to obey their parents only if those parents are Christians?
- Verses 2-3 – Exodus 20:12.
- On verse 4 Robert Harkrider wrote, *“A parent must understand the personality of his child and mold those inherited traits in such a way that will not provoke rebellion and hatred.”*
- Nurture – chastening, educating, training.
- Admonition – counsel, verbal instruction.

6:5-9 – Employer/Employee relations.

- The Christian should be the best, most honest worker on the job.
- The Christian *master* should be the best, most honest leader.
- We should all understand that there is One who is higher than us all!

6:10-18 – The Christian’s War and Armor.

- 10-12 – Our battle is for the hearts of men (2 Cor. 10:3-5).
- Verse 13 – There is no time for the Christian to turn and run from the battle.
- The equipment:
 - Truth – John 8:32; 17:17.
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A Study Outline of Philippians

This congregation was established as a result of the “Macedonian Call” – Acts 16:9-12.

The earliest converts were Lydia, her household, and the jailor (Acts 16:14-40).

The purpose is to show the joy that one can have as a Christian and to show the importance of Christian fellowship.

- *Joy* is found 6 times – 1:4, 25; 2:2, 17-18; 4:1.
- *Rejoice* is found 12 times – 1:18 twice, 26; 2:16-18; 3:1, 3; 4:4 twice, 10.

The theme of fellowship is emphasized throughout the book:

- 1:5 (fellowship), 1:7 (partakers); 2:1 (fellowship); 3:10 (fellowship); 4:14 & 15 (communicate).
- All of these English words are rooted in the idea of fellowship (*koinonia*), or participation with one another in the work of Christ.

1:1-7 – Paul’s thankfulness for the brethren.

- Timothy was with Paul when this congregation was established (Acts 16:1-2).
- Saints – from *hagios* meaning, “Holy, set apart, sanctified, consecrated.”
- Bishops – from *episkopos* meaning, “an overseer of works, superintendent.” 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4.
- Deacons – from *diakonos* meaning, “a minister, servant, laborer.” 1 Timothy 3:8-13.
- It very evident that Paul was thankful for those who assisted and encouraged him in his work of evangelizing the world (1:3-7).

1:8-11 – Paul prays for their continued growth.

- The *bowels* of Jesus Christ (v. 8) – in classical Greek this word is a reference to the heart and liver of an animal. In the NT it refers to the seat of man’s emotions, including the mind and heart. The NKJV renders this as *the affection of Jesus Christ*.
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 - Abound in love, knowledge, and judgment.
 - Approve of things excellent.
 - Be sincere (pure, unmixed).
 - Live without offence.
 - Filled with fruit of righteousness.

1:12-18 – The cause and result of Paul’s imprisonment.

- His captivity did not stop him from teaching (1:12-13). 4:22
- Our conduct can encourage others to live for the Lord (1:14).
- Regardless of the motive, Paul was thankful that Christ was being preached (1:15-18).

1:19-26 – His current situation caused him to be perplexed.

- His attitude was, that, whatever happened, he would glorify God in all things (1:19-20).
- Paul’s perspective on life and death – 1:21-24.
- For what are we living? Is heaven real to us?

1:27-30 – Let your life be worthy of the gospel.

- The Christian has an elevated standard of living. It is not that we think we are “better” than others, though.
- Verse 27 – Stand strong together in unity with the same purpose in mind.
- Show no fear (1:28). From the persecutors point of view the Philippians were being destroyed. From the persecuted’s point of view, they were being saved.
- Living the Christian life will bring about conflict – 1:29-30.

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- His attitude was, that, whatever happened, he would glorify God in all things (1:19-20).
- Paul's perspective on life and death – 1:21-24.
- For what are we living? Is heaven real to us?

1:27-30 – Let your life be worthy of the gospel.

- The Christian has an elevated standard of living. It is not that we think we are “better” than others, though.
- Verse 27 – Stand strong together in unity with the same purpose in mind.
- Show no fear (1:28). From the persecutors point of view the Philippians were being destroyed. From the persecuted's point of view, they were being saved.
- Living the Christian life will bring about conflict – 1:29-30.

Chapter 2

2:1-11 – We should be humble and work together.

- JB Lightfoot translated verse 1 like this, *“If your experiences in Christ appeal to you with any force, if love exerts any persuasive power upon you, if your fellowship in the Spirit is a living reality, if you have any affectionate yearnings of heart, and any tender feelings of compassion, listen and obey.”*
- Paul's appeal for unity in Christ is based on the very best that is in man.
- He also encourages them not to be contentious (v. 3-4).
- James 3:14-15
- Jesus is the ultimate example of humble, loving service (v. 5-8).
- God rewarded Christ for His humble service (v.9-11).

2:12-18 – Living as a servant will cause your light to shine.

- God has always demanded obedience from His people (v. 12).
- God cannot use one who is not a willing, obedient worker. 1 Cor. 3:9
- Nor will God accept one who complains and gripes about the work. *Disputings* means, “debating or questioning.”
- Blameless has reference to the external and harmless has to do with the internal.
- Verse 15 - There is no escaping living in the world and being surrounded by sin and negative influences. We are to be the city on a hill. The light we hold forth is the word of God (v. 16).
- Christianity is a life that requires sacrifice on my behalf (Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Cor. 12:14-15).

2:19-30 – Paul and his fellow-workers.

- 2:19-23 – Timothy
 - In his letters, Paul mentions Timothy 17 times.
 - Timothy was a student of God throughout his life (2 Tim. 1:5; 3:15).
 - He was a missionary with Paul (Acts 16).
 - Timothy's care for the church was second-nature.
- 2:25-30 – Epaphroditus
 - He was a selfless servant of God.
 - He was the type that worried that other people worried about him.
 - Because of his work and love, Paul wanted the church to hold Epaphroditus in high esteem (v. 29-30).

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A Study Outline of Philippians

Chapter 3

3:1-9 – Fleshly accomplishments versus rejoicing in Christ.

- Rejoice in the Lord! *“We have the means of maintaining a constant level of joy that springs from our gratitude to God and His Son for all the blessings that are ours in the eternal*

kingdom. In spite of all the evils and false doctrine in the world and among the brethren, let us cultivate this calm, serene joy.”

- Dogs – It has been said that, in their prayers, “devout” Jewish men would thank God that they were not women, Gentiles, or dogs.
- We can tell when people are “evil workers” – Matthew 7:17-18.
- Concision – (NKJV – mutilation). A reference to those who claimed to be God’s people, but were not.
- God’s people have had the circumcision of the heart – Romans 2:28-29.
- Paul did not place his confidence (trust) in his fleshly accomplishments or standing in Jewish society (v. 4-6).
- When Paul heard the truth he willingly made a change of heart and life (v. 7-9). This is what it means to be *converted!*
- The Jews sought their blessings through the physical ties to Abraham. Paul gave that up to seek God’s blessing through Christ.
- Our being righteous comes from God through the faith of Christ, not by our own works (v. 9).

3:10-14 – Paul’s aim in Christ.

- He discusses three things:
 - The power of Christ’s resurrection – The entire Christian system either stands or falls with this event.
 - The fellowship of His sufferings – Paul understood what it meant to suffer as a follower of Christ.
 - Being conformed to His death – Paul was willing to die for his faith, even if it was a similar death to Christ’s.
- Verses 11-14 state that he was going to “press on” in order to attain unto the resurrection from the dead.
- *Attain* is a Greek word that means “to take or receive.” Paul states that he was going to continue to strive that he might lay hold of the resurrection. This should be the aim of every Christian. He was doing everything he could to grasp heaven itself.

3:15-21 – We are encouraged to follow Paul’s example.

- All *perfect* (mature) Christians should have the same mindset Paul just discussed. Attaining to the resurrection should be our highest aim in life.
- Verse 16 shows that people become Christians in the same way and will all get to heaven in the same way. If we abide in the Scriptures we will teach and practice the same things.

- Verses 17-19 contain a warning about false teachers. On more than one occasion Paul wrote that false teachers were more concerned with “their own bellies” than with the truth (Rom. 16:17-18; 1 Tim. 6:5).
- The mature child of God realizes that this life is temporary and heaven is eternal.

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A Study Outline of Philippians

Chapter 4

4:1-5 – Let all men see your equity.

- A continuation of 3:20-21. Looking ahead to the resurrection we must continue to stand fast in the faith.
- Disputes in the church must be handled correctly – Matt. 5:23-25; 18:15-17.

- “Help” (v.3) implies that, whatever the issue was, the church was to try to make it right.
- Even in difficulties we can “rejoice in the Lord.”
- Moderation means, “equity, fairness, restraint.”

4:6-9 – Do not be distracted from your Christianity.

- *Careful* means, “anxious, distracted.” Matthew 6:25; Luke 10:38-42.
- Prayer is an effective aid in dealing with the concerns of this life – Psalm 31:1-5.
- Hebrews 13:5-6
- In the midst of a crazy world, the Christian can have peace!
- Our living daily as a Christian is directly connected to the way we think (v.8).
- We need to live in such a way that we could tell others to live like us!

4:10-23 – Paul’s thankfulness for those who financially supported his efforts.

- Paul learned what can be a hard lesson to learn – contentment in any circumstance.
- 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.
- Paul was not in it “for the money,” but he was extremely thankful for what he did receive as he traveled with the gospel (v. 14-18). 1 Corinthians 9:3-14
- Two thoughts from verse 19:
 - God provides for our needs – Lk. 6:38; Pro. 19:17.
 - The provisions are according to His riches in Christ.
- Every saint was important to Paul (v. 21-22).

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A Study Outline of Colossians

There are some unique issues dealt with in this book.

- There were some in the church (Gnostics) who claimed to have a special knowledge that other Christians did not have (2:3).
- There were some who taught that the flesh was the seat of evil (2:20-23) and so Christians needed to neglect the body.
- Colosse was a center of travel and so there was a constant battle for the Christians against new ideas that would come to their city from all over the world.
- The main thought in this book is knowledge:
 - Knew – 1:6
 - Knowledge – 1:9-10; 2:3; 3:10
 - Know(n) – 1:27; 3:24; 4:1, 6, 8-9
 - Understand – 1:9; 2:2

1:1-2 – Paul’s greeting.

1:3-8 - What Paul had heard about the Colossians.

- Their faith (v. 4). One’s faith can be seen and heard (Rom. 1:8; 2 Cor. 3:2; 1 Thes. 1:3).
- Their love (v. 4, 8). Biblical love is active and visible – James 2:14-17; 1 John 3:16-18.
- Their fruit (v. 5-6). Am I producing anything as a Christian? John 15:1-8; 2 Peter. 1:5-8.

1:9-11 – What Paul desired for the Colossians.

- Filled with knowledge (v. 9-10).
- Walk worthy, pleasing the Lord (v.10).
- Be strengthened (v. 11).

1:12-14 – What God has done for us.

- Qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance (v. 12).
- Delivered us from darkness (v.13).
- Redeemed and forgiven us (v. 14).

1:15-22 – The divinity and power of Christ.

- He is the image (likeness, representation) of God (v.15)
- He is the first-born (the preeminent one – v. 15).
- He is the Creator (v. 16) – John 1:1-3.
- He is the Sustainer (to cause to stand in place - v. 17).
- He is head of the church (v. 18).
- He is the preeminent one (chief, highest dignity - v. 18).
- He has all fullness (v. 19) – Matt. 28:18; Col. 2:9.

- Brought peace and reconciliation (v. 20-21).
- He can present us holy, blameless, and above reproach (v. 22).

1:23-29 – Don't be moved away from the hope of the gospel.

- The promises of verses 20-22 are qualified in verse 23.
- Everywhere Paul went the gospel went with him.
- *Dispensation* means, “management of a household, stewardship (NKJV).”
- Preaching the gospel involves both warning (admonishing) and teaching (instructing, discoursing).
- Perfect = complete, lacking in nothing. He is not saying that all men in Christ are sinlessly perfect.

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Chapter 2

2:1-4 – Paul was concerned about enticing words.

- He had labored (*to weary oneself* – 1:29) and had striving (*agonized* – 1:29) and now he refers to it as a conflict (*a wrestling, struggling* – 2:1).
- All of this was for the purpose stated in verse 2.
- He desired that all men might understand the *mystery of God*.
- Verse 3 is a key to understanding the book. The Gnostics claimed that those following Christ were lacking in their knowledge. Paul clarifies that in Christ is all wisdom and knowledge – 2 Peter 1:3; Jude 3. Either the Bible is complete or it is not.
- *Beguile* means, “to reason incorrectly, to turn aside from wisdom.”

2:5-10 – You are complete in Christ.

- *Order* means, “arrangement, well-ordered life.”
- *Stedfastness* means, “strength, stability.”
- These Christians were established “in the faith.” They were not missing anything when it came to revelation or teaching.
- We cannot allow the world to determine the way we think or act (v.8).
- We must allow Christ, who was God in the flesh, to determine our thinking in life because we are “complete in Him” (v. 9-10).

2:11-15 – Christians are buried in Christ and, therefore, dead to sin and the Law of Moses.

- Spiritual circumcision occurs when we obey the gospel because the word of God cuts the heart (Acts 2:37).

- Verse 12 is extremely important. Baptism is not an act of self-righteousness wherein I am trying to save myself. It is an act of obedient faith, knowing that it is God who operates to forgive sin when I obey His will.
- The handwriting of ordinances – Deuteronomy 4:13; 5:22.

2:16-23 – Hold up Christ, not the doctrines of men.

- This section shows that holiness is not achieved by holding to man-made doctrines or by going back under the law of Moses.
- Those in Christ have died to the world (v. 20) and should not subject themselves to *will worship* (v. 23) or certain restrictions (v. 21-22) that make an outward show.
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A Study Outline of Colossians

Chapter 3

3:1-4 – Living in view of eternity.

- We are risen with Christ only after we are “buried with Him in baptism” (2:12).
- *Set your affection* is one word in the Greek. One man wrote, “The activity represented by this word involves the will, affections, and conscience.”
- We are to die to self – Matthew 16:24-25.

3:5-9 – Appearing in glory requires that we put off some things.

- Verse 5 shows that Gnosticism (flesh is evil) is not true. We can control our bodies.
- Inordinate affection – “These are lusts that dishonor those who indulge in them.”
- Evil concupiscence – “A great desire or longing.” NKJV renders this “evil desire.”
- Verse 7 shows that sin is a condition in which one can live.
- All these things should stop because “ye have put off the old man” (v. 9).

3:10-17 – Appearing in glory requires that we put on some things.

- The Christian is a “renewed” man. This word in the Greek means, “a renovation which makes a person different than in the past.” The renewal we go through is based upon our knowledge.
- *Barbarian* – a man who speaks a foreign language.
- *Scythian* – a nomadic tribe who traveled various countries around the Black and Caspian Seas.
- Verses 12 -14 show what we are to put on when we have renovated our thinking.
- “*Love is like the outer garment that holds all other Christian virtues in place.*”
- The renewal in knowledge occurs when we allow the word of Christ to dwell in us.
- Christian singing is to be reciprocal (v.16) and serves the purpose of teaching and exhorting one another.
- “*In the name of the Lord*” is a reference to authority.

3:18-25 – Appearing in glory requires that our domestic life be in order.

- 18-19 – Husbands and wives.
- 20-21 – Children and parents.
- 22-4:1 – Employers and employees.
- This section is paralleled in Ephesians 5:22-6:9.

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Chapter 4

4:2-6 – The Christian’s prayer life and walk.

- There is never a bad time to pray to God! Luke 18:1-8 teaches that we must be persistent in our prayer lives. Luke 18:9-14 teaches that our prayers must come from a heart of humility.
- We should pray for the opportunity to reach people, too! Teaching others about Christ is something we ought (v. 4) to be doing.
- Christians must walk in this world like everyone else, but we are to be different from the world (1 Jn. 2:15-17).
- Verse 6 covers a topic that cannot be over-emphasized! James 3:3-12.

4:7-9 – Tychicus and Onesimus.

- Tychicus – Acts 20:4; Eph. 6:21; 2 Tim. 4:12; Titus 3:12.
- Onesimus – Philemon 10.

4:10-11 – Paul’s comforters.

- Aristarchus – Acts 19:29; 20:4; 27:2; Phile. 24.
- Marcus – Phile. 24; 1 Pet. 5:13.
- Justus – mentioned only here.

4:12-13 – A zealous servant.

- Epaphras – Col. 1:7; Phile. 23.
- He labored (agonized – put forth great effort) and was zealous (heat, fervency).

4:14-15 – Luke and Demas.

- Luke was one of Paul’s fellow-travelers.
- Demas – 2 Tim. 4:10; Phile. 24.

4:16 – Circulating letters.

- From this verse and 2 Peter 3:15-16 we learn that these letters were circulated among the churches during the first century. This process was part of the preservation of Scripture through time.
- Today there are over 5,000 manuscripts and fragments of just the NT dating back as early as the 2nd century AD.

A Study Outline of Colossians

Chapter 4

4:2-6 – The Christian’s prayer life and walk.

- There is never a _____ to pray to God! Luke 18:1-8 teaches that we must be persistent in our prayer lives. Luke 18:9-14 teaches that our prayers must come from a heart of humility.
- We should pray for the opportunity to reach people, too! Teaching others about Christ is something we _____ (v. 4) to be doing.
- Christians must walk in this world like everyone else, but we are to be different from the world (1 Jn. 2:15-17).
- Verse 6 covers a topic that cannot be over-emphasized! James 3:3-12.

4:7-9 – Tychicus and Onesimus.

- Tychicus – Acts 20:4; Eph. 6:21; 2 Tim. 4:12; Titus 3:12.
- Onesimus – Philemon 10.

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