

Chapter 4 – The *Preeminence* of Jesus Christ is **DISPLAYED**. Colossians 4:7-18

Our Duty – Displaying Christ *in the body of Christ*...

- V 7-9 All my STATE shall **Tychicus** declare unto you, who is a BELOVED brother, and a FAITHFUL minister and FELLOWSERVANT in the Lord: Whom I have sent unto you for the SAME purpose, that he might KNOW your estate, and COMFORT your hearts; With **Onesimus**, a FAITHFUL and BELOVED brother, *who is one of you*. They shall make known unto you all things which are done here.

Beloved	Loved; greatly loved; dear to the heart
Faithful	Firmly adhering to duty; of true fidelity; loyal; true to allegiance
Fellowservant	One who has the same master.

Ephesians 6:21-23 *“But that ye also may know my affairs, and how I do, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, shall make known to you all things...”*

NOTE We find Tychicus also in Acts 20:4, 2 Timothy 4:12, and Titus 3:12. He was faithful and greatly used by God in the early church (distribution of the words of God). We studied Onesimus in Philemon. Paul was helping him by including him in this letter with Tychicus to the church in Colosse (likely met in Philemon’s house). We are all stewards of God’s words and His gospel. (1 Cor 4:1-4)

- V 10-11 **Aristarchus** my FELLOWPRISONER saluteth you, and **Marcus**, sister’s son to **Barnabas**, (touching whom ye received COMMANDMENTS: if he come unto you, RECEIVE him;) And **Jesus**, which is called **Justus**, who are of the circumcision. These only are my FELLOWWORKERS unto the kingdom of God, which have been a COMFORT unto me.

Fellowprisoner	One imprisoned in the same place.
Fellowworkers	One employed in the same occupation.

Acts 19:29 *“And the whole city was filled with confusion: and having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul’s companions in travel, they rushed them with one accord into the theatre.”*

NOTE We find Aristarchus also in Acts 19:29, 20:4, 27:2, and Philemon 1:24. He obviously was one that endured persecution and was with Paul in prison for a time. Marcus is John Mark who wrote the Gospel of Mark. These men are called out as “only” Paul’s fellowworkers who had been a comfort to him.

- V 12-14 **Epaphras**, *who is one of you*, a SERVANT of Christ, saluteth you, ALWAYS laboring fervently for you in PRAYERS, that ye may stand PERFECT and COMPLETE in all the will of God.

For I bear him record, that he hath a great ZEAL for you, and them that are in Laodicea, and them in Hierapolis. **Luke**, the BELOVED physician, and **Demas** greet you.

Perfect Finished; complete; not defective; a perfect likeness
 Complete Finished; ended; concluded; having no deficiency

Philemon 23 "There salute thee Epaphras, my fellowprisoner in Christ Jesus;"
 2 Timothy 4:11 "Only Luke is with me..."
 2 Timothy 4:10 "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world..."

NOTE Epaphras had most likely started the church and had come to Paul to inform him of their state among other things. These men hazarded their lives for the gospel and for the Apostle Paul and the church that was being established. Demas checked out at some point having loved this present world. Ugh!

- V 15-16 Salute the BRETHREN which are in Laodicea, and **Nymphas**, and **the church** which is in his HOUSE. And when this epistle is READ among you, cause that it be READ also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise READ the epistle from Laodicea.

Revelation 3:14 "And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God."

NOTE The Doctrinal application of the book of Colossians is to our time in church history. We are the Laodicean Church. There is no doubt that we are to read and take heed to the words of this book just as they did in 90AD!

- V 17 And say to **Archippus**, TAKE HEED to the ministry which thou hast RECEIVED in the Lord, that thou FULFIL it.

Take heed Exercise caution; care; watch for danger; circumspection
 Fulfil To accomplish; to perform, complete or execute.

Philemon 1:2 "And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house:"

NOTE In Philemon, we learn that Archippus was most likely Philemon's son and that the church met in his house. For some reason, Paul called him out publicly to be reminded of his ministry and to make sure that he accomplished it!

- V 18 The salutation by the hand of me Paul. REMEMBER my bonds. GRACE be with you. Amen.

NOTE Colossians, 1 Corinthians, Galatians, 2 Thessalonians, and Philemon all say that Paul wrote them with his own hand. It was extra personal for him as he wrote it from a Roman prison! As is his manner, Paul ends with "grace be with you." God and Paul knew the key to a faithful and victorious life – GRACE!