

The Supremacy of Christ
A Study of Colossians
Week 11: Paul Rolls the Credits

Scripture

Colossians 4:7-18

Key Points (Where We Are in History)

- Paul wrote to the Colossian Church, while he was under house arrest in Rome
- They had never met in person, but Paul wrote in response to the report of Epaphras (their pastor)
- The church was facing pressure to *mix religious systems*
- Paul wrote with the goal of showing Christ's supremacy over all things
- Colossians (doctrine); Colossians 3-4 (practical outworking in our daily lives)

Motivation (Why They Need to Know It)

Last week...

Public Life

Insulate - Allowing exposure while protecting oneself from that which may harm

Isolate - Avoiding any exposure to protect oneself

-Walk in Wisdom with Outsiders

-Let your Speech always be Gracious

Prayer Life - approaches and ways to pray

Information (What They Need to Know)

God's Orchestra

Different personalities, abilities, passions, experiences, nationalities, giftings, vocations, roles, and callings

Full Life of Service

Colossians 4:7-8 (ESV) Tychicus will tell you all about my activities. He is a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. **8** I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts,

Servant of the King - Diakonos - One who executes the commands of another

Full Transformation

Colossians 4:9 (ESV) and with him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you of everything that has taken place here.

Sinful Past with a Redeemed Future

Onesimus means useful or helpful was one who ran away and stole from his master.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Fellowship in the Church

-God's People Overcomes Barriers

Paul lists 3 Jews and 3 Gentiles

Time of Jesus there was extreme hatred. Jesus Good Samaritan and Samaritan Woman at the Well

Colossians 4:10a (ESV) Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you,

Wherever they are or whomever they are called to it is God's work in us

Acts 10 - Peter has a vision from God 3 times (for emphasis). God was bringing this Jewish Apostle a Roman Centurion and his family

Paul and Peter in Prison

Philip on the side of the Road

Paul shipwrecked

Paul pelted with Stones and left for dead

Paul before governors and kings

Colossians 4:10b (ESV) and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him),

-God's People Transcend Grievances

Acts 13:13 - John Mark quits for whatever reason.

Acts 15:36-41 - Barnabas wants to take John Mark and Paul deeply disagreed.

12 Years Later Paul is calling for him in Colossians and Philemon and in the end of Paul's life he calls for Timothy

Colossians 4:11-13 (ESV) and Jesus who is called Justus. These are the only men of the circumcision among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. **12** Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God. **13** For I bear him witness that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis.

-God Produces a Christ-Like Heart

Justus a Jew reaches out to Gentiles.

Colossians 4:14-18 (ESV) Luke the beloved physician greets you, as does Demas. **15** Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. **16** And when this letter has been read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you also read the letter from Laodicea. **17** And say to Archippus, “See that you fulfill the ministry that you have received in the Lord.” **18** I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

2 Types of Hearts

Failing Heart - **Demas** - Longs for Safety, avoid trouble or sorrow, doesn't get entangled in relationships, avoids commitment and difficulty

I Timothy 4:10 (ESV) For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica.

Full Heart - Takes Risks with people, susceptible to brokenness, hurts and sorrows, large potential for pain. Knows the greatest joy and sorrow because they love like Christ. Lavish with love.

Nympha gave what she had to further the Church. (Tychicus, Onesimus, Aristarchus, Mark, Barnabas, Justus, Epaphras, Luke

Full Heart helps Those like Archippus (R-Key-Pus) fulfill their calling. No desire for their own attention or spotlight no jealousy but a desire to see a brother or sister fulfill what God has called them to.

Application (What They Need to Do)

