

# Colossians Conclusion

---

## "THE DISCIPLES DOZEN"

---

The 12 Church Personalities  
We All Need To End Well

Colossians 4:2-18

King Over Our Ending

# Introduction (v 2-6)

## A Portrait of Ending Well

We start well, but seldom end well

1. Intimate relationship of God
2. Make Jesus known effectively
3. Be wise in your life, time & words w/ those unconvinced about Jesus.

This mirrors Colossians:

① Col. 1:1-14 Thanksgiving / Prayer

Col 1:3

② End of ch. 1 Make Jesus known to beg. of ch. 3

- Pre-eminence of Christ
- Alive in Christ
- Identity in Christ

Col 1:15-16

2:9-10

③ Relationship to others (ch. 3)

Col. 3:7-8

Hail to the King!

Paul had help - 12 disciples  
More likely to end well w/ the church than apart

# I Trusted like Tychicus (v7-8)

## 1. Beloved Brother

- (1) Brother = Christian
  1. Probably converted in Ephesus
- (2) Beloved = Affection
  1. Mentioned 5x's = "sent"
  2. Here, Acts, Ephesians, 2 Tim, Titus

## 2. Fellow servant (doulos)

(1) Tychicus was charged with two duties. First, to deliver Paul's letters: one to the Colossians, another to a slave owner in Colosse named Philemon, another to the Ephesians (Ephesians 6:21), and quite probably a last letter to the Laodiceans (Colossians 4:16). **Last week onesimus?**

(2) His second duty was simply to tell the churches in Asia about Paul's situation.

1. reason he was so trusted

## 3. Faithful Minister ←

- (1) The church needs faithful, loyal, servants committed to the well-being of the church
- (2) In whatever role needed
- (3) For as long as needed  
**Glory plodding**

**#Bill**

1. Lee @ the door
2. Darren in tech booth
3. They affect us all

**1 Pet. 4:10** - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

## II. Overhauled Like Onesimus (v9) 1. Faithful & Beloved Brother

- (1) But he wasn't always
- (2) Philemon's runaway slave
- (3) Philemon II = useless
  1. Indication he stole something
- (4) Phil IΦ = Paul became his father
  1. He'll pay whatever is owed

## 2. One of You

- (1) Not merely a Colossian, but a brother.
- (2) The church is full of transformation stories.
  1. Transform, reform, conform (People need opportunity)
- (3) In order for that to happen, we need people to be Father's & mother's to orphans, like Onesimus
  1. Orphaned for a season sometimes.

#Gary

**Eph. 2:19** - So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God...

### III. Allied Like Aristarchus (v10a)

#### 1. Fellow prisoners

- (1) Native of Thessalonica
- (2) w/ Paul during riot at Ephesus
- (3) Imprisoned w/ Paul in Judea now in Rome
- (4) He was willing to suffer w/ Paul
- (5) The church needs fellow prisoners who will suffer w/ one another

#Mark = Ketamine

Pr. 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

### IV. Mended Like Mark (v10b)

#### 1. Cousin of Barnabas

**Acts 15:36-39** - And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us return and visit the brothers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are." Now Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other.

#### 2. Instructor = Leader (command)

- (1) Now he thinks of him different

**2 Ti. 4:11** - Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry.

#### 3. To Be Welcomed

- (1) It's clear, reconciled & forgiven
- (2) Church needs more grace for one another

#Jim Clark

## V. Juxtaposed Like Justus (v11)

### 1. Man of Circumcision

- (1) Last Jew in this group
- (2) Jesus = Joshua
- (3) That's about all we know, except.

### 2. A comfort

- (1) Only place in NT
- (2) Medical term - pain killer
- (3) Except in this case - speech
- (4) Juxtaposed - there are those that have been a comfort, those not.

#Pat

- (5) And though we don't know much, we know he was exactly what Paul needed.

1 Thes. 5:11 - encourage one another & build one another up, just as you are doing.

- (6) The church doesn't someone who can do everything for you, but needed

## VI. Engaged like Epaphras (v12-13)

### 1. One of you

- (1) Ch 1. - Epaphras = planter
- (2) From Colossae - Gentile

### 2. Always struggling on your behalf in prayer & worked hard for you

- (1) struggle = agonizomeai = agony
- (2) worked = pain
- (3) Ministry is painful & agonizing.

#Elders

## VIII. Loved Like Luke (v14a)

### 1. Physician

- (1) We learn only here his job.
- (2) The Gospel & Acts author (only gentile writer)

### 2. Beloved (agape)

- (1) Only this adj. probably because

**2 Tim. 4:11a** - Luke alone is with me...

- (2) Paul will be imprisoned again this time alone, except for Luke.
- (3) It wasn't easy being Paul's friend. But he was there day in day out for at least two years.
- (4) The church needs more friendship, comradeship & bro-mances. Who will be there

## IX. Disappointed Like Demas (v14b)

### 1. Almost Like Luke?

- (1) Mentioned w/ Luke twice. Here and ...

**2 Tim. 4:10** - For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me & gone...

### 2. People We Really Love Hurt Us

- (1) These events mature & grow us

#T-others  
#J-Mc

## X. Neighborly Like Nympha (v15)

### 1. The church in her house

- (1) A lot of the early church began in homes (Acts)
- (2) Nympha served as host & maybe leader.
- (3) The church needs hospitality
  1. Living
  2. Partying
  3. Crying

# Jamie # Mary # Kathryn # Deb

1. We're matured & strengthened as we break bread & see real life lived.

## XI. Advised Like Archippus (v16-17)

### 1. Fellow Soldier

**Philemon 1b-2** - To Philemon our beloved fellow worker and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house

- (1) A comrade in arms
- (2) Soldiers don't complain, they don't think of themselves
- (3) Dutiful & diligent

### 2. Fulfill your ministry

- (1) Paul is encouraging him to complete
  1. Maybe thinking about quitting
- (2) The church needs prophetic voice that can see what you can't



# XII. Treasured Like Timothy (v.1.1)

## 1. Our brother

- (1) Greek Father, Jewish mother
- (2) Joined Paul later journey's
- (3) Teen - Early 20's
- (4) Chronic digestive condition  
(1 Tim 5:23)

**1 Tim. 1:2** - To Timothy, my true child in the faith:

**2 Tim. 1:2** - To Timothy, my beloved child:

**1 Cor. 4:17** - That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord

**Php. 2:22** - But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel.

(5) Timothy is w/ Paul for much of Acts

(6) Mentioned in:

(i) Philemon, 1 Thess., 2 Thess  
1 Cor., 2 Cor., Php.,  
Rom., Col.

#chuckk

... & has 2 books

(7) The church has people who are family  
i. Dating, marriage, children, death

# Conclusion (v18)

## XIII. Persistent Like Paul

### 1. Paul Pastored (he wrote; grace)

- (1) 13-14 Books
- (2) Much of our theology on Jesus
- (3) Diverse writing from life

### 2. Paul risked (chains)

- (1) Paul was imprisoned for 3 charges
  1. Disturbing the Peace
  2. Attempting to desecrate the temple
  3. Part of Nazarene sect
- (2) He's in Rome awaiting appeal for 2 years
- (3) Acquitted at end of AD 62, beginning of AD 63
- (4) 2 years unaccounted (Spain?)

(5) But we know what was happening in Rome:

1. Great Fire of 64 AD  
10 of 14 districts  
6 Days  
Nero? Warehouse Fire?  
Decent into madness
2. Nero blames Christians
3. Great Persecution
4. All Christian leaders subject to arrest & death

(7) For some reason he returns to Rome!

(8) He's arrested, imprisoned, writes 2 Tim. & is killed by Nero (beheading) in Mamertine Prison adjacent to forum

(9) Why?

1. Because Jesus was King. Not Nero. Jesus was worth it
2. The church needs more willing to persist, especially today & risk it all... jobs, reputation, etc  
It's Jesus worth it to you.