

The Book of Colossians

Theme:

“ALL YOU NEED IS CHRIST!”

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Date: 11-25-18 **Lesson:** 10

Text: Chapter 4:7-11



TEXT:

(7) **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,

(9) 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.

(10) **Aristarchus** my fellow prisoner greets you, and **Mark the cousin of Barnabas** (concerning whom you have received instructions--if he comes to you, welcome him),

(11) 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.

STUDY NOTES:

A. Tychicus will tell you all about my activities. He is a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts (he was a courier for Paul - back and forth)
(Acts 20:1-6; Eph 6:19-23; 2 Tim 4:7-16; Titus 3:12-15)

B. 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. (he was a runaway slave from Colossae)
(Philemon 1-24)

C. Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, (he is a Macedonian from Thessalonica)
He was with Paul in Ephesus, known in Colossae, and with him in Jerusalem, Greece and Rome
(Acts 19:23-40; 20:1-6; 27:1-8; Philemon 24)

D. and Mark the cousin of Barnabas
(concerning whom you have received instructions--if he comes to you, welcome him),
(Acts 12:11-17,24,25; 15:37-41; 2 Tim 4:9-13; Philemon 24, 1 Pet 5:12-14; The Gospel of Mark)
Note: John Mark was the associate of Peter. His Gospel was in reality
“The Gospel of Peter”. But he was also an associate to Paul in his later life.

E. and Jesus who is called Justus.
(others called Justus: Acts 1:23; 18:7)

F. These are the only men of the circumcision (Jews) among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me.
(1 Cor 7:18-20; Gal 6:12-18; Php 2:25; 3:3-7)

LIFE APPLICATION:

1. How can each of us be a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord along with others?
2. Why is it important that we may know how others are doing, so that we may encourage their hearts?
3. When can we be fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and be a comfort to others?

LUTHER'S WORKS - Vol. 29, pp. 104–105 - Lectures on Philemon

22. [*At the same time*] *prepare a guest room for me, [for I am hoping through your prayers to be granted to you]*. Here again you see that although Paul is a saint and “a chosen instrument” (Acts 9:15), nevertheless he everywhere requests prayers and support for himself and asks that others stand by him in battle. Thus every one of us needs the prayer of others even more, we who are conscious of being in the same Christ, but are far inferior to him. “Not only am I sending **Onesimus**, but you will have me as well.” Now there follow greetings.

[23. *Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you.*] *Epaphras* is the one who had established and given birth to the **Colossians**. Consult that epistle (Col. 1:7; 4:12). He was certainly a pious person, one who receives great praise from Paul.

[24. *And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.*] **Mark**, whom he once wanted to take along as a companion on his journey (Col. 4:10). *Demas* is still a man of sincere faith (cf. 2 Tim. 4:10), because he mentions Luke after him. This must have been shortly before [the apostasy of Demas], because Paul is already in prison. He was a great man, since he is mentioned before Luke, that is, a great man in preaching, expounding, and writing the Gospel.

As long as the Roman Empire stood, there was completely free passage throughout the world. Therefore he had many such with him, to see to it that nothing evil [befell the Gospel]. They were his messengers and visitors. Timothy, Titus, Crescens, and Luke had to run in order to resist the false prophets everywhere and to see Philemon and Archippus.

Thus we have a private epistle from which much should be learned how brethren are to be commended, that is, that an example might be provided to the church how we ought to take care of those who fall and restore those who err; for the kingdom of Christ is a kingdom of mercy and grace, while the kingdom of Satan is a kingdom of murder, error, darkness, and lies.”