

Colossians 4:7-18 – Review & Final Greetings.

I. Review

- i. Faith, love, hope, prayer, who Christ is and our reconciliation through and Paul's ministry to the Colossians in sufferings.
- ii. In Christ is all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, walk in Him aware of those who cheat through doctrines of men and philosophy. In Christ we who were once dead, have been made alive having forgiven us all our sins, thus we should not be deceived by legalists and self-imposed religion.
- iii. We to seek things above, where Christ reigns – putting off any sinful habits in word or deed.
We're supposed to put on mercy, humility, meekness, patience, forgiveness and above all love, peace and thankfulness.
We're to let the Word of God richly dwell in us, flowing through in songs and hymns.
We're to work as to the LORD, employers and employees have God as the major Master, who will reward us.
Family – wives submitting, husbands loving, children obedient and father encouraging their children.
- iv. Prayer/intercession, walk in wisdom, speak with flavor and grace.

II. (7-9) Tychicus and Onesimus – faithful

Tychicus, a beloved brother, would carry this letter to them (**will tell you all the news about me**). He is one of the men who came with Paul from the Roman province of Asia to Jerusalem, to carry the offering of those believers to the needy Christians of Jerusalem and Judea.

[Acts 20:2-5](#) - *Now when he had gone over that region and encouraged them with many words, he came to Greece and stayed three months. And when the Jews plotted against him as he was about to sail to Syria, he decided to return through Macedonia. And Sopater of Berea accompanied him to Asia—also Aristarchus and Secundus of the Thessalonians, and Gaius of Derbe, and Timothy, and **Tychicus** and Trophimus of Asia. These men, going ahead, waited for us at Troas.*

Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother: Onesimus was a slave owned by a believer in Colosse, but he ran away and came into contact with Paul in Rome.

There, Onesimus became a Christian and a dedicated helper to Paul. His story is continued in Paul's letter to Philemon.

Faithful/trustworthy/loyal - one who show themselves faithful in the transaction of business, the execution of commands, or the discharge of official duties.

Traitor - a person who betrays someone or something, such as a friend, cause, or principle.

[Numbers 12:7](#) - *Not so with My servant Moses; He is **faithful** in all My house.*

[Proverbs 25:13](#) - *Like the cold of snow in time of harvest is a **faithful** messenger to those who send him, For he refreshes the soul of his masters.*

[Micah 7:2](#) - *The **faithful man** has perished from the earth, and there is no one upright among men. They all lie in wait for blood; every man hunts his brother with a net.*

[Revelation 2:10](#) - *“Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be **faithful** until death, and I will give you the crown of life.*

III. ([10-11](#)) Aristarchus, Mark, Justus – fellow workers and comfort.

Aristarchus was from Thessalonica, he was Paul's travel companion, and with the apostle when the Ephesian mob seized Paul in [Acts 19:29](#). He was also with Paul when he set sail for Rome under his Roman imprisonment in [Acts 27:2](#). Here Paul calls him **my fellow prisoner**.

Mark the cousin of Barnabas... Though Paul had much earlier a falling out with both Barnabas and Mark in [Acts 13:5](#), [13:13](#), and [15:36-40](#), they had reconciled.

Jesus/Justus - we know nothing except his name. He is numbered among these previous four men, all of them *comforters* to Paul in his Roman custody.

Moses and Aaron, David/Jonathan and Samuel, Elijah and Elisha,

[1 Samuel 20:17](#) - *Now Jonathan again caused David to vow, because he loved him; for he loved him as he loved his own soul.*

[Proverbs 17:17](#) - *A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for **adversity**.*

[Proverbs 18:24](#) - *A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.*

[2 Corinthians 13:11](#) - *Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.*

[1 Thessalonians 5:14](#) - *Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.*

IV. Epaphras (12-13) – Laboring in prayers and zealous.

“Prayer is hard work, and Epaphras worked diligently at it, especially knowing the danger of the false teaching in Colosse. So, Epaphras prayed that the Colossian Christians would **stand perfect and complete in all the will of God**. This is a wonderful prayer to pray for anyone.”

Epaphras was **zealous** for them/loved them – **on fire**.

[Luke 18:1](#) - *Then He spoke a parable to them, that men **always** ought to **pray** and not lose heart...*

V. (14-16) Greetings

Luke, the human author of the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts, was a physician.

Demas: Must have been known to them. Yet in the last mention of him in [2 Timothy 4:10](#), Paul said that Demas had forsaken him, *having loved this present world*, and that he had gone on to Thessalonica.

Nymphas, the church that is in his house: Having no buildings of their own, the early church met as “house churches.”

It was the general practice to distribute all apostolic letters among the churches, especially those close to each other.

VI. (17-18) Archippus – fulfill your ministry.

[2 Timothy 4:5](#) - *But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, **fulfill your ministry**.*