

CALVARY BIBLE CHURCH

Studies in the Book of Colossians - 7

Date: May 23, 2010

Text: Col. 4:7-18

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PEOPLE & PRINCIPLES OF FAITH

INTRODUCTION We come down today to Paul's final words to two small but important churches of the first century. Both Colossae and Laodicea were important to the Lord Jesus, so the Spirit of God writes to the churches in general, but also personally to a number of people involved in ministry there. As Paul finishes his words and teachings as God has spoken through him, we see how precious and personal the Lord is for all those who love and serve Him. Let's enter into this closing section and see a glimpse of...

I. Paul's Faithful Co-workers – (4:7-15)

- A) Tychicus and Onesimus
- B) Aristarchus and Mark
- C) Justus and Epaphras
- D) Luke and Demas

II. Paul's Final Commands – (4:16-17)

- A) Public Dissertation – *“Make known all the writings of Paul”*
- B) Personal Directions – *“Encouragement for Archippus”*

III. Paul's Farewell Challenge – (4:18)

- A) Paul's Response – *“He writes personally by his own hand”*
- B) Paul's Request – *“Remember my needs and help me.”*

CONCLUSION: In these final verses, Paul teaches us that God is full of mercy and that his saints are chosen from all walks of life and from all strata of society. As Paul began this letter with a call for grace, he now ends with it too. Indeed, we start the Christian life because of God's grace freely given (Eph. 2:8) and we require it until the end of the journey. Now the believers in Colossae and Laodicea had God's truths concerning Christ's humanity and deity and no false teachers could nor should be able to sway them from a pure love and faithful service to our Lord and Savior. How about you? Are you following false teachers and teaching? Stay with God's Word and you'll be home free.

TEXT FOR MESSAGE

The New International Version

Col 4:7-18 (NIV) "Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. 8 I am sending him to you for the express purpose that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts. 9 He is coming with Onesimus, our faithful and dear brother, who is one of you. They will tell you everything that is happening here. 10 My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.) 11 Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings. These are the only Jews among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me. 12 Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. 13 I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis. 14 Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings. 15 Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house.

16 After this letter has been read to you, see that it is also read in the church of the Laodiceans and that you in turn read the letter from Laodicea. 17 Tell Archippus: "See to it that you complete the work you have received in the Lord."

18 I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you."