# Colossians, Philemonon, & Ephesians

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<td>1:1</td>
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<td>1:7; 4:12</td>
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<td>Onesimus Sent</td>
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Outline of Colossians

   A. Thanks to God for Colossians' Hope (1:3-8)
   B. Request to God for Colossian's Growth and Strength (1:9-11)
   C. Thanks for Deliverance Into Kingdom & Description of Its King (1:12-23)

II. Paul's Work in the Gospel for the Colossians (1:24-2:3)
   A. Description of the Duty Given to Paul by God (1:24-29)
   B. Expression of Concern For, and Closeness to Readers (2:1-4)

III. Errors of Men Compared With the Truth of Christ (2:4-3:4)
   A. Warning Against Persuasive Speech (2:4-7)
   B. Warning Against Human Reasoning (2:8-15)
   C. Warning Against Old Law Keeping (2:16,17)
   D. Warning Against False Religious Practices (2:18-3:4)

IV. Thing to Put Off and Put On (3:5-17)
   A. Things to Put Off (3:5-9)
   B. Things to Put On (3:10-17)

V. Behavior in Everyday Relationships (3:18-4:1)
   A. Family Responsibilities (3:18-21)
   B. Servant-master Responsibilities (3:22-4:1)
   C. Exhortations to Prayer and Wise Living (4:2-6)

VI. Personal Greetings to and From Friends (4:7-18)
   A. Introduction of the Letter-carriers (4:7-9)
   B. Salutations to Rome (4:10-14)
   C. Salutations to Colossae (4:15-18)
Errors of Men & Truth of Christ
- Persuasion
- Human Reason
- Old Law
- False Practice

(2:4-6) Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you ... As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.

Paul’ Work
- Duty to Christ’s Body
- Concern for Colossians

(1:23) If indeed you continue in the faith ... of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Paul’ Prayer
- Thanks/Request for Colossians
- Description of the King (1:13-22)

(3:2,3) Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

(3:17) And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus

Things to Put Off & Put On

Behavior in Everyday Relationships

Christ is Preeminent
Col 1:1-12 – Paul’s Prayer

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, 2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colosse: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, 4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; 5 because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, 6 which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth; 7 as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, 8 who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.

9 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may have a walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and long-suffering with joy; 12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.
13  He has delivered us from the power of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14  in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. 15  He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16  For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17  And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18  And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

19  For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, 20  and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. 21  And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled 22  in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and irreproachable in His sight 23  if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.
"All Things"

God

Christ: the Image & Fullness of God

Supernatural Beings

Man

World

Created Things

In Heaven

On Earth
Christ and...

**God**
- Son of His Love (1:13)
- His Image (1:15)
- His Mystery (2:2)
- Seated at Right Hand (3:1)
- Fullness of Godhead in Him (2:9)

**Creation**
- Firstborn (1:15)
- Created Through & For Him (1:16)
- Before All Things (1:17)
- Holds All Things Together (1:18)

**Principalities, Powers...**
- Created Through & For Him (1:16)
- Head Over All (2:10)
- Made Display of Them (2:13)
- Triumphed Over Them (2:13)

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**The Church (Us)**

**He Is:**
- Our Head (1:18; 2:19)
- Firstborn From the Dead (1:18)
- First Place in Everything (1:18)
- Our Life (3:4)

**We Are:**
- His Body (1:24)
- Reconciled through His Death (1:20-22)
- Circumcised in Him (2:11)
- Buried & Raised with Him in Baptism (2:12)
- Made Alive with Him (2:13)
- Forgiven & Freed by Him (2:13)
- Raised Up with Him (3:1)
if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister. I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church, of which I became minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God, the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

For I want you to know what a great conflict I have for you and those in Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh, that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.
## The Colossian Errors

### Origin
- This World (2:8)
- Traditions of Men (2:8)
- Philosophies of Men (2:8)

### Practices
- Keeping Feasts/Days (2:16)
- Self Abasement (2:23)
- Worship of Angels (2:18)
- Not Touching/Tasting (2:21,22)
- Severity to the Body (2:23)

### Appeal
- Persuasive Speech (2:4)
- Show of Wisdom (2:23)
- Deception (2:4; 2:8; 2:18)
- Pride (2:18)

### Authority
- Traditions of Men (2:8)
- Philosophy of Men (2:8)
- Principles of the World (2:8)
- Visions (2:18)
Christ, Preeminent Over All

God’s Image & Fulness: Christ (1:15,19)
- All Wisdom (2:3)
- Mystery Revealed (1:27)
- Creator/Sustainer of All (1:16,17)
- Head of All Saved (1:18)
- Reality Behind Shadow (2:17)
- Creator (1:16) Conqueror (2:15) Head (2:10)

The Christian
## The Appeal of Error (Col 2:4-3:4)

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<th>Appeal</th>
<th>Protection</th>
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<tr>
<td>(2:4)  Let no One Deceive You</td>
<td>• Persuasive Words (Logic, Argument)</td>
<td>• Order &amp; Steadfastness in Faith &lt;br&gt; • Walk In Christ--as Received &lt;br&gt; • Firmly Rooted, Built, Established</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2:8)  Lest Anyone Take You Captive</td>
<td>• Philosophy &amp; Empty Deceit  &lt;br&gt; • Traditions of Men (Popular Opinion)  &lt;br&gt; • Basic Principles of the World (Science)</td>
<td>• Emphasize Christ:  &lt;br&gt; - Fullness of Deity  &lt;br&gt; - Your Completeness  &lt;br&gt; • Remember Changes in Christ:  &lt;br&gt; - Circumcision  &lt;br&gt; - Buried &amp; Raised  &lt;br&gt; - Dead &amp; Alive  &lt;br&gt; - Cancelled Debt</td>
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<td>(2:16) Let No Man Judge You</td>
<td>“Religious” Appeal (Traditional Practices)</td>
<td>• Remember Old Practices Were Shadows -- Christ is the Reality.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2:18) Let No Man Cheat (Rob) You</td>
<td>• Striking Worship  &lt;br&gt; • Things Seen, Fleshly Mind  &lt;br&gt; • Appearance of Wisdom</td>
<td>• Remember Not Holding to the Head  &lt;br&gt; • Realize No Value Against Lusts  &lt;br&gt; • Set Mind on Things Above:  &lt;br&gt; - Christ’s Revelation  &lt;br&gt; - Our Glorification</td>
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</table>
Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you also once walked when you lived in them. But now you must also put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of you mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
# Things to Put Off

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<td>Sexual Immorality</td>
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<td>Impurity</td>
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<td>Impurity</td>
<td>Uncleaness</td>
<td>Craving, Longing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passion</td>
<td>Passion</td>
<td>Lust</td>
<td>Passion</td>
<td>(equal to idolatry)</td>
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<td>Evil Desire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greed</td>
<td>Covetousness</td>
<td>Greed</td>
<td>Covetousness</td>
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<td>Anger</td>
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<td>(emotion)</td>
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<td>Wrath</td>
<td>Wrath</td>
<td>Rage</td>
<td>Wrath</td>
<td>temper expressed</td>
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<td>Malice</td>
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<td>Malice</td>
<td>Malice</td>
<td>hatred expressed</td>
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<td>Slander</td>
<td>Blasphemy</td>
<td>Slander</td>
<td>Railing</td>
<td>harm w/ tongue</td>
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<td>Abusive</td>
<td>Filthy Language</td>
<td>Filthy Language</td>
<td>Shameful Speaking</td>
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<td>Speech</td>
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### Things to Put On

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<td>Compassion</td>
<td>Tender mercies</td>
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<td>Compassion</td>
<td>seeing other side</td>
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<td>Kindness</td>
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<td>Kindness</td>
<td>Kindness</td>
<td>working best for another</td>
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<td>Humility</td>
<td>Humbleness</td>
<td>Humility</td>
<td>Lowliness</td>
<td>putting self aside</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gentleness</td>
<td>Meekness</td>
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<td>Meekness</td>
<td>not angered or provoked</td>
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<td>Patience</td>
<td>Longsuffering</td>
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<td>Longsuffering</td>
<td>high tolerance threshold</td>
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<td>Bearing With</td>
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<td>Forbearing</td>
<td>sharing loads</td>
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### “In His Name”

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<td>Giving Thanks</td>
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<td>Making Requests</td>
<td>John 15:16 (see 15:7; 16:23)</td>
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**Concepts:**
1. By His Authority, As His Representative (II Thes 3:6)
2. By His Enabling Power, Giving Him the Credit
3. For His Benefit, On His Behalf (cf to Acts 26:9)
4. In Response to His Command, In Obedience to Him
Psalm 89:19-27
Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy one, and saidst, I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people. I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him: With whom my hand shall be established: mine arm also shall strengthen him. The enemy shall not exact upon him; nor the son of wickedness afflict him. And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague them that hate him. But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted. I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers. He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation. Also I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.
Fullness

(KJV - Fulness 13, full 1, fulfilling 1, which is put in to fill up 1, pierce that filled up 1; 17)

1) That which is (has been) filled
   a) a ship inasmuch as it is filled (i.e. manned) with sailors, rowers, and soldiers
   b) in the NT, the body of believers, as that which is filled with the presence, power, agency, riches of God and of Christ

2) That which fills or with which a thing is filled
   a) of those things which a ship is filled, freight and merchandise, sailors, oarsmen, soldiers
   b) completeness or fulness of time

3) Fulness, abundance

4) A fulfilling, keeping
Dominions, Principalities, Powers

**Dominion** (KJV - Dominion 3, government 1; 4)
1) Dominion, power, lordship
2) In the NT: one who possesses dominion

**Principalities** (KJV - Beginning 40, principality 8, corner 2, first 2, misc 6; 58)
1) beginning, origin
2) the person or thing that commences, the first person or thing in a series, the leader
3) that by which anything begins to be, the origin, the active cause
4) the extremity of a thing (as of the corners of a sail)
5) the first place, principality, rule, magistracy (of angels and demons)
Dominions, Principalities, Powers

**Power** (KJV - Power 69, authority 29, right 2, liberty 1, jurisdiction 1, strength 1; 103)

1) power of choice, liberty of doing as one pleases
   a) leave or permission

2) physical and mental power
   a) Strength with which one is endued, which he possesses or exercises

3) the power of authority (influence) and of right (privilege)

4) the power of rule or government (the power of him whose will and commands must be submitted to by others and obeyed)
   a) universally: authority over mankind
   b) specifically
      4b1) the power of judicial decisions
      4b2) of authority to manage domestic affairs
   c) metonymically
      1) a thing subject to authority or rule: jurisdiction
      2) one who possesses authority
         a) a ruler, a human magistrate
         b) leading and more powerful among created beings superior to man, spiritual potentates
   d) a sign of the husband’s authority over his wife
   e) the sign of regal authority, a crown
Reconcile

(KJV - Reconcile 3; 3)

1) to reconcile completely
2) to reconcile back again
3) bring back a former state of harmony
Rudiments

(KJV - Element 4, Rudiment 2, Principle 1; 7)

Any first thing, from which the others belonging to some series or composite whole take their rise, an element, first principal

a) the letters of the alphabet as the elements of speech, not however the written characters, but the spoken sounds

b) the elements from which all things have come, the material causes of the universe

c) the heavenly bodies, either as parts of the heavens or (as others think) because in them the elements of man, life and destiny were supposed to reside

d) the elements, rudiments, primary and fundamental principles of any art, science, or discipline
d1) i.e. of mathematics, Euclid's geometry
Handwriting of Ordinances

(KJV - Handwriting 1; 1)

1) A handwriting, what one has written by his own hand
2) A note of hand or writing in which one acknowledges that money has either been deposited with him or lent to him by another, to be returned at the appointed time

(KJV - Decree 3, Ordinance 2; 5)

1) Doctrine, decree, ordinance
   a) of public decrees
   b) of the Roman Senate
   c) of rulers
2) The rules and requirements of the law of Moses; carrying a suggestion of severity and of threatened judgment
3) Of certain decrees of the apostles relative to right living
Luke

Travels with Paul

Acts 16:10-17  From Troas to Philippi (2\textsuperscript{nd} Journey)
Acts 20:5-15  Philippi to Troas (3\textsuperscript{rd} Journey)
Acts 21:1-18  Troas to Jerusalem (3\textsuperscript{rd} Journey)
Acts 17:1-28:16 Jerusalem to Rome
Col 4:14  With Paul in Early Imprisonment
II Tim 4:11  With Paul in Later Imprisonment

Biography and Character

Col 4:14  The Beloved Physician
Philem 24  Paul’s Fellow Worker
(from Luke)  Educated, Cultured, Medical Knowledge;
Interest in Sea-faring, Close Association with Mary, Mother of Jesus
# Barnabas

## Biography

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<td>Acts 14:14</td>
<td>Called an Apostle (of Antioch Church)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acts 15:2,22-35</td>
<td>Sent to Jerusalem Conference from Antioch, Then Sent to Syria, Asia Minor to Teach Truth.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Character

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scripture</th>
<th>Character Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I Cor 9:6</td>
<td>Paul Says He has a Right not to Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gal 2:1,9,13</td>
<td>Right Hand of Fellowship from Peter, James, John</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mark
(“John” = Jewish, “Mark” = Roman)

**Biography**

- ? Mark 14:51-52 Young Man in Linen Sheet at Arrest of Jesus
- Acts 12:12 His Mother’s House in Jerusalem was a Place of Meeting for the Early Church
- Acts 12:25 Returns with Paul and Barnabas to Antioch
- Acts 13:13 Turns Back to Jerusalem on 1st Journey
- Acts 15:37,38 Went with Barnabas to Cyprus (2nd)
- Philem 24 With Paul in Early Imprisonment
- Col 4:10 Barnabas’ Cousin
- II Tim 4:11 Requested by Paul in Later Imprisonment
- I Peter 5:13 With Peter; Called “my son”

**Character**

- Philem 24 Paul’s Fellow Worker
- Col 4:10 Paul Recommends Him to Colossian Church
- II Tim 4:11 He is Useful to Paul
Onesimus

**Biography**
- Philem; Col 4:9: Slave of Philemon in Colossae
- Philem 16: Brought to Paul in Rome
- Col 4:7-9: Went Back to Colossae with Tychicus

**Character**
- Philem 11: Formerly Useless
- Philem 13: Ministered to Paul in Prison
- Col 4:9: “Our Faithful, Beloved Brother, who is One of Your Number”

Philemon

**Biography**
- Philem: Resident of Colossae; Church in His House
- ?Owner of Onesimus
- ?Wife: Apphia
- ?Son: Archippus to Give Heed to His Ministry

**Character**
- Philem 7: Hearts of Saints Refreshed by Him
- Philem 21: Paul Had Confidence in His Obedience
# Tychicus

## Biography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scripture</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acts 20:4</td>
<td>Of Asia Traveled Ahead of Paul to Troas (3rd)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II Cor 8:19ff</td>
<td>Chosen to Carry Collection to Judean Churches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eph 6:21</td>
<td>With Onesimus, Carried Letters to Colossae and Ephesus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Col 4:7-9</td>
<td>To Report to Churches about Paul’s Situation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Titus 3:12</td>
<td>Either he or Artemas to Replace Titus in Crete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II Tim 4:12</td>
<td>Requested by Paul in Later Imprisonment</td>
</tr>
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</table>

## Character

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Scripture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Col 4:7</td>
<td>Able Worker, Trustworthy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Aristarchus

**Biography**
- Acts 19:29 (3rd Journey) In Ephesus, Traveling with Paul
- Acts 20:4 With Paul in Greece, Went on to Troas from Thessalonica with Timothy, Tychicus and Others
- Acts 27:2 With Paul as He Started for Rome
- Col 4:10 "Fellow Prisoner” with Paul
- Philem 24 “Fellow Worker” with Paul

**Epaphras**

**Biography**
- Col 1:4,8 Reported State of Church to Paul
- Col 4:12 One of Number of Colossae Concerned for Steadfastness of Colossians
- Col 4:13 Also Concerned for Laodicea and Hieropolis

**Character**
- Col 1:7 Beloved Fellow Bond-Servant, Faithful Servant of Christ on Behalf of Colossians
- Col 4:12 Labored Earnestly for Colossians in Prayers
Demas

Biography

Col 4:14 With Paul in Rome; Sends Greetings to Colossae

Philem 24 “Fellow worker” with Aristarchus, Mark, Luke Ephaphras

II Tim 4:10 Forsaken Paul (Deserted) Went to Thessalonica Loved This Present World