

The Heart Of A Disciple Maker

Colossians 4:7-18

Introduction

I Paul's Update To The Church

- A. He sent Tychicus:
 - 1. He was a **dear** brother - Eph 6:21a
 - 2. He was a faithful minister - Mt 25:21; 1 Cor 4:2
 - 3. He was a fellow **servant** in the Lord - Matt 20:25-28
- B. He sent Tychicus for the express purpose:
 - 1. That they might know Paul's circumstances - Eph 6:21-22
 - 2. That he might **encourage** their hearts - 1 Thess 2:11-12
- C. He sent Onesimus: - Philemon
 - 1. Paul's **faithful** and dear brother
 - 2. A fellow Colossian
 - 3. To tell them what was happening in Rome

II Paul's Companions Greet The Church

- A. Aristarchus, Paul's fellow **prisoner** - Acts 19:29; 20:4; 27:2
- B. Mark, the cousin of Barnabas - Acts 13; 15; 2 Tim 4:11
 - 1. If he comes to you, welcome him
- C. Jesus, who is called Justus
 - 1. The only Jew among my fellow workers - Prov 20:6
 - 2. They have proved a **comfort** to me - 2 Cor 1:3-4
- D. Epaphras - Col 1:7-8
 - 1. Who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus
 - 2. He is always **wrestling** in prayer for you that you may:
 - a. Stand firm in all the will of God - Rom 12:2
 - b. Be **mature** and fully assured - Col 1:28-29
 - 3. I vouch for him that:
 - a. He is **working** hard for you - Col 3:23-24
 - b. He is working hard for those at Laodicea/Hierapolis
- E. Luke, our dear friend the **doctor** - Luke; Acts; 2 Tim 4:11
- F. Demas - Philem 24; 2 Tim 4:10; Prov 24:16

III Paul's Final Words To The Church

- A. He sent greetings:

- 1. To the brothers at Laodicea - Rev 3:14
- 2. To Nympha and the **church** in her house
- B. He gave instructions:
 - 1. That his letter be **read** in the church of Laodicea
 - 2. That they read the letter from Laodicea
- C. He exhorted Archippus: - Philem 2; 2 Tim 4:5
 - 1. "**Complete** the work you have received in the Lord"
- D. He authenticated his letter:
 - 1. "I write this greeting in my own hand" - 2 Thess 3:17
 - 2. "**Remember** my chains" - Heb 13:3
 - 3. "Grace be with you" - 2 Cor 13:14

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. What adjectives would your close friends use to describe you?
2. What impact do you think Paul's inclusion of his "fellow-servants" had on 1) his team members? 2) The believers at Colosse? How can you imitate Paul's example this week?
3. As you consider the qualities Paul commends in his fellow workers, which character quality would you most like to be known for? What can you do this week to develop that quality?
4. Epaphras labored to the point of exhaustion in his prayers for the benefit of the Colossian believers. What can you do this week to contribute to the spiritual development of those around you?
5. Paul exhorted Archippus to "complete the work he received from the Lord." Is there some work that God has called you to do that remains incomplete? What is it and what will you do?
6. Take time this week to acknowledge the faithful fellow-servants God has placed in your life by:
 - a. Thanking God for their ministry and influence
 - b. Letting them know how much you value their partnership
 - c. Praying for them on a regular basis
 - d. Asking God to give you "The Heart Of A Disciple Maker"

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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