# 2023-2024 CMA GEPC Reference Materials

## Galatians 1

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| ¶ | Galatians | 1 | : | 1 | - | Paul, an *apostle*--*sent* not from *men* nor by a man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead-- |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 2 | - | and all the brothers and sisters with me, To the churches in ***Galatia***: |
| ¶ | Galatians | 1 | : | 3 | - | Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 4 | - | who *gave* himself for our *sins* to ***rescue*** us from the *present* *evil* age, *according* to the will of our God and Father, |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 5 | - | to *whom* be glory for ever and ever. Amen. |

### No Other Gospel

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| ¶ | Galatians | 1 | : | 6 | - | I am ***astonished*** that you are so ***quickly*** ***deserting*** the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are *turning* to a *different* gospel-- |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 7 | - | which is *really* no gospel *at* all. ***Evidently*** *some* people are *throwing* you into *confusion* and are trying to ***pervert*** the gospel of Christ. |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 8 | - | But even if we or an *angel* from *heaven* *should* preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 9 | - | As we have *already* *said*, so now I *say* *again*: If ***anybody*** is preaching to you a gospel other than what you ***accepted***, let them be under God's curse! |
| ¶ | Galatians | 1 | : | 10 | - | Am I now trying to win the ***approval*** of human ***beings***, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were *still* trying to please people, I *would* not be a servant of Christ. |

### Paul Called by God

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| ¶ | Galatians | 1 | : | 11 | - | I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human ***origin***. |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 12 | - | I did not *receive* it from any man, nor was I *taught* it; *rather*, I *received* it by *revelation* from Jesus Christ. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 1 | : | 13 | - | For you have heard of my ***previous*** *way* of *life* in Judaism, *how* ***intensely*** I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 14 | - | I was ***advancing*** in Judaism ***beyond*** *many* of my *own* age among my people and was ***extremely*** *zealous* for the ***traditions*** of my *fathers*. |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 15 | - | But *when* God, who *set* me ***apart*** from my ***mother's*** ***womb*** and called me by his grace, was pleased |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 16 | - | to ***reveal*** his *Son* in me so that I *might* preach him among the *Gentiles*, my ***immediate*** *response* was not to ***consult*** any human *being*. |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 17 | - | I did not *go* up to Jerusalem to *see* *those* who were apostles before I was, but I went into *Arabia*. *Later* I ***returned*** to ***Damascus***. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 1 | : | 18 | - | Then *after* ***three*** *years*, I went up to Jerusalem to *get* ***acquainted*** with *Cephas* and ***stayed*** with him ***fifteen*** *days*. |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 19 | - | I *saw* ***none*** of the other apostles--only *James*, the *Lord's* *brother*. |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 20 | - | I ***assure*** you before God that what I am ***writing*** you is no *lie*. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 1 | : | 21 | - | Then I went to ***Syria*** and ***Cilicia***. |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 22 | - | I was *personally* ***unknown*** to the churches of ***Judea*** that are in Christ. |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 23 | - | They only heard the ***report***: "The man who *formerly* persecuted us is now preaching the *faith* *he* *once* tried to destroy." |
|  | Galatians | 1 | : | 24 | - | And they ***praised*** God because of me. |

## Galatians 2

### Paul Accepted by the Apostles

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| ¶ | Galatians | 2 | : | 1 | - | Then *after* ***fourteen*** *years*, I went *up* *again* to *Jerusalem*, this *time* with Barnabas. I *took* Titus along also. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 2 | - | I went in *response* to a *revelation* and, ***meeting*** ***privately*** with those esteemed as ***leaders***, I ***presented*** to them the gospel that I *preach* among the Gentiles. I ***wanted*** to be *sure* I was not running and had not been running my *race* in vain. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 3 | - | Yet not even Titus, who was with me, was ***compelled*** to be circumcised, even *though* he was a ***Greek***. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 4 | - | This *matter* ***arose*** because *some* *false* *believers* had ***infiltrated*** our ***ranks*** to ***spy*** on the *freedom* we have in Christ Jesus and to *make* *us* *slaves*. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 5 | - | We *did* not *give* in to them for a ***moment***, so that the truth of the gospel might be ***preserved*** for you. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 2 | : | 6 | - | As for those who were held in *high* ***esteem***--*whatever* they were ***makes*** no ***difference*** to me; God *does* not *show* *favoritism*--they *added* nothing to my *message*. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 7 | - | On the *contrary*, they recognized that I had been *entrusted* with the ***task*** of *preaching* the gospel to the *uncircumcised*, *just* as Peter had been to the circumcised. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 8 | - | For God, who was at work in Peter as an apostle to the circumcised, was also at work in me as an apostle to the Gentiles. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 9 | - | James, Cephas and ***John***, those esteemed as ***pillars***, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of ***fellowship*** when they recognized the grace given to me. They ***agreed*** that we should *go* to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 10 | - | All they ***asked*** was that we should *continue* to *remember* the ***poor***, the *very* *thing* I had been *eager* to do all along. |

### Paul Opposes Cephas

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| ¶ | Galatians | 2 | : | 11 | - | When Cephas came to ***Antioch***, I *opposed* him to his ***face***, because he *stood* *condemned*. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 12 | - | For *before* ***certain*** *men* came from James, he *used* to *eat* with the Gentiles. But when they *arrived*, he *began* to ***draw*** *back* and *separate* himself from the Gentiles because he was ***afraid*** of those who *belonged* to the *circumcision* ***group***. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 13 | - | The *other* Jews *joined* him in his *hypocrisy*, so that by *their* *hypocrisy* even Barnabas was *led* ***astray***. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 2 | : | 14 | - | When I *saw* that they were not ***acting*** in ***line*** with the truth of the gospel, I *said* to Cephas in ***front*** of them all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a *Gentile* and not like a Jew. *How* is *it*, then, that you ***force*** Gentiles to *follow* ***Jewish*** ***customs***? |
| ¶ | Galatians | 2 | : | 15 | - | "We who are Jews by birth and not ***sinful*** Gentiles |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 16 | - | know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, *too*, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no *one* *will* be justified. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 2 | : | 17 | - | "But if, in ***seeking*** to be justified in Christ, we Jews *find* ***ourselves*** also among the ***sinners***, ***doesn't*** that *mean* that Christ ***promotes*** *sin*? *Absolutely* not! |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 18 | - | If I ***rebuild*** *what* I *destroyed*, then I *really* *would* be a ***lawbreaker***. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 2 | : | 19 | - | "For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 20 | - | I have been *crucified* with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ *lives* in me. The *life* I *now* live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who *loved* me and gave himself for me. |
|  | Galatians | 2 | : | 21 | - | I do not set aside the grace of God, for if *righteousness* *could* be ***gained*** through the law, Christ died for nothing!" |

## Galatians 3

### Faith or Works of the Law

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| ¶ | Galatians | 3 | : | 1 | - | You foolish ***Galatians***! Who has ***bewitched*** you? Before your *very* *eyes* Jesus Christ was clearly ***portrayed*** as *crucified*. |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 2 | - | I would *like* to ***learn*** just one *thing* from you: *Did* you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 3 | - | Are you so foolish? *After* *beginning* by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to ***finish*** by means of the flesh? |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 4 | - | Have you ***experienced*** so *much* in vain--if it *really* was in vain? |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 5 | - | So *again* I *ask*, does God *give* you his Spirit and *work* ***miracles*** *among* you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard? |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 6 | - | So *also* Abraham "*believed* God, and it was *credited* to him as righteousness." |
| ¶ | Galatians | 3 | : | 7 | - | *Understand*, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 8 | - | Scripture ***foresaw*** that God would ***justify*** the Gentiles by faith, and ***announced*** the *gospel* in *advance* to Abraham: "All ***nations*** will be blessed through you." |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 9 | - | So those who rely on faith are blessed *along* with Abraham, the *man* of faith. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 3 | : | 10 | - | For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not *continue* to do everything written in the Book of the Law." |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 11 | - | Clearly no one who ***relies*** on the law is justified before God, because "the ***righteous*** will live by faith." |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 12 | - | The law is not *based* on faith; on the *contrary*, it *says*, "The person who does *these* *things* will live by them." |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 13 | - | Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by *becoming* a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is ***hung*** on a ***pole***." |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 14 | - | *He* redeemed us in order that the *blessing* given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. |

### The Law and the Promise

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| ¶ | Galatians | 3 | : | 15 | - | Brothers and *sisters*, *let* *me* *take* *an* *example* from ***everyday*** life. Just as no one *can* set aside or ***add*** to a *human* covenant that has been ***duly*** established, so it is in this *case*. |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 16 | - | The promises were ***spoken*** to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not *say* "and to ***seeds***," *meaning* *many* *people*, but "and to your seed," *meaning* one person, who is Christ. |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 17 | - | What I *mean* is this: The law, ***introduced*** ***430*** *years* *later*, does not set aside the covenant ***previously*** established by God and *thus* do *away* with the promise. |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 18 | - | For if the *inheritance* depends on the law, then it no longer depends on the promise; but God in his *grace* *gave* it to Abraham through a promise. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 3 | : | 19 | - | *Why*, then, was the law given *at* all? It was *added* because of *transgressions* until the Seed to whom the promise ***referred*** had come. The law was given through *angels* and *entrusted* to a mediator. |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 20 | - | A mediator, *however*, ***implies*** *more* *than* one ***party***; but God is one. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 3 | : | 21 | - | Is the law, *therefore*, *opposed* to the promises of God? *Absolutely* not! For if a law had been given that *could* ***impart*** life, then righteousness would ***certainly*** have come by the law. |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 22 | - | But Scripture has locked up everything under the *control* of *sin*, so that what was *promised*, *being* given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe. |

### Children of God

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| ¶ | Galatians | 3 | : | 23 | - | Before the *coming* of this faith, we were held in ***custody*** under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be *revealed*. |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 24 | - | So the law was *our* guardian until Christ *came* that we might be justified by faith. |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 25 | - | Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 3 | : | 26 | - | So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 27 | - | for all of you who were ***baptized*** *into* Christ have ***clothed*** *yourselves* with Christ. |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 28 | - | There is neither *Jew* nor *Gentile*, neither *slave* nor *free*, nor is there ***male*** and ***female***, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. |
|  | Galatians | 3 | : | 29 | - | If you *belong* to Christ, then you are ***Abraham's*** seed, and *heirs* *according* to the promise. |

## Galatians 4

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| ¶ | Galatians | 4 | : | 1 | - | What I am *saying* is that as *long* as an heir is underage, he is no *different* from a slave, *although* he ***owns*** the *whole* ***estate***. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 2 | - | The heir is ***subject*** to ***guardians*** and ***trustees*** until the time set by his father. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 3 | - | So also, when we were underage, we were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 4 | - | But when the set time had *fully* *come*, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 5 | - | to ***redeem*** those under the law, that we might *receive* *adoption* to sonship. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 6 | - | Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son *into* our *hearts*, the Spirit who *calls* out, "***Abba***, Father." |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 7 | - | So you are no *longer* a slave, but *God's* child; and *since* you are his child, God has made you also an heir. |

### Paul's Concern for the Galatians

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| ¶ | Galatians | 4 | : | 8 | - | *Formerly*, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by *nature* are not ***gods***. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 9 | - | But now that you know God--or *rather* are *known* by God--how is it that you are *turning* *back* to those ***weak*** and ***miserable*** forces? *Do* you wish to be ***enslaved*** by them *all* over again? |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 10 | - | You are ***observing*** ***special*** *days* and ***months*** and ***seasons*** and *years*! |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 11 | - | I *fear* for you, that *somehow* I have ***wasted*** my ***efforts*** *on* you. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 4 | : | 12 | - | I plead with you, brothers and sisters, become like me, for I *became* like you. You did me no *wrong*. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 13 | - | As you know, it was because of an illness that I *first* *preached* the gospel to you, |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 14 | - | and *even* *though* my illness was a ***trial*** to you, you did not *treat* me with ***contempt*** or ***scorn***. *Instead*, you ***welcomed*** me as if I were an *angel* of God, as if I were Christ Jesus himself. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 15 | - | *Where*, *then*, is your *blessing* of me now? I can *testify* that, if you could have *done* so, you *would* have *torn* out your *eyes* and *given* them to me. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 16 | - | Have I now become your ***enemy*** by ***telling*** you the truth? |
| ¶ | Galatians | 4 | : | 17 | - | Those *people* are zealous to *win* you over, but for no good. What they want is to ***alienate*** you from *us*, so that you may have *zeal* for them. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 18 | - | It is ***fine*** to be zealous, ***provided*** the *purpose* is good, and to be so *always*, not *just* when I am with you. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 19 | - | My *dear* children, for *whom* I am again in the ***pains*** of ***childbirth*** until Christ is ***formed*** in you, |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 20 | - | how I wish I could be with you now and ***change*** my ***tone***, because I am ***perplexed*** *about* you! |

### Hagar and Sarah

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| ¶ | Galatians | 4 | : | 21 | - | *Tell* me, you who want to be under the law, are you not ***aware*** of what the law *says*? |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 22 | - | For it is written that *Abraham* had two sons, one by the slave woman and the *other* by the free woman. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 23 | - | His son by the slave woman was born according to the flesh, but his son by the free woman was born as the *result* of a ***divine*** promise. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 4 | : | 24 | - | These *things* are *being* *taken* ***figuratively***: The *women* ***represent*** two *covenants*. One *covenant* is from Mount Sinai and ***bears*** children who are to be slaves: *This* is Hagar. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 25 | - | Now Hagar ***stands*** for Mount Sinai in *Arabia* and ***corresponds*** to the *present* ***city*** of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 26 | - | But the Jerusalem that is *above* is free, and she is our *mother*. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 27 | - | For it is written: "Be *glad*, ***barren*** woman, you who never ***bore*** a child; ***shout*** for *joy* and ***cry*** ***aloud***, you who were never in *labor*; because *more* are the children of the ***desolate*** woman *than* of her who has a *husband*." |
| ¶ | Galatians | 4 | : | 28 | - | Now you, brothers and sisters, like ***Isaac***, are children of promise. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 29 | - | At that time the son born according to the flesh *persecuted* the son born by the power of the Spirit. It is the *same* now. |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 30 | - | But what *does* *Scripture* *say*? "*Get* rid of the slave woman and her son, for the slave *woman's* son *will* never *share* in the *inheritance* with the free *woman's* son." |
|  | Galatians | 4 | : | 31 | - | *Therefore*, brothers and sisters, we are not children of the slave woman, but of the free woman. |

## Galatians 5

### Freedom in Christ

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| ¶ | Galatians | 5 | : | 1 | - | It is for freedom that Christ has *set* us free. *Stand* firm, *then*, and do not let yourselves be ***burdened*** again by a ***yoke*** of *slavery*. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 5 | : | 2 | - | *Mark* my *words*! I, *Paul*, *tell* you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you *at* all. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 3 | - | Again I *declare* to *every* *man* who ***lets*** *himself* be circumcised that he is ***obligated*** to *obey* the whole law. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 4 | - | You who are trying to be justified by the law have been *alienated* from Christ; you have ***fallen*** *away* from *grace*. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 5 | - | For through the Spirit we eagerly *await* by faith the *righteousness* for *which* we *hope*. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 6 | - | For in Christ Jesus *neither* circumcision nor *uncircumcision* has any value. The *only* *thing* that *counts* is faith ***expressing*** *itself* through love. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 5 | : | 7 | - | You were *running* a *good* *race*. Who ***cut*** in *on* you to keep you from ***obeying*** the truth? |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 8 | - | That *kind* of ***persuasion*** *does* not *come* from the one who *calls* you. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 9 | - | "A ***little*** ***yeast*** *works* through the whole ***batch*** of ***dough***." |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 10 | - | I am confident in the Lord that you will *take* no other *view*. The one who is *throwing* you into *confusion*, *whoever* that *may* be, will have to ***pay*** the ***penalty***. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 11 | - | Brothers and sisters, if I am still *preaching* circumcision, *why* am I still *being* *persecuted*? In that *case* the ***offense*** of the *cross* has been ***abolished***. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 12 | - | As for those ***agitators***, I *wish* they *would* *go* the whole *way* and ***emasculate*** *themselves*! |

### Life by the Spirit

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| ¶ | Galatians | 5 | : | 13 | - | You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not *use* your freedom to *indulge* the flesh; *rather*, *serve* one *another* ***humbly*** in love. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 14 | - | For the ***entire*** law is ***fulfilled*** in ***keeping*** this one ***command***: "Love your *neighbor* as ***yourself***." |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 15 | - | If you ***bite*** and ***devour*** each other, *watch* *out* *or* you will be *destroyed* by each other. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 5 | : | 16 | - | So I *say*, *walk* by the Spirit, and you will not ***gratify*** the desires of the flesh. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 17 | - | For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in ***conflict*** with each other, so that you are not to do *whatever* you *want*. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 18 | - | But if you are *led* by the Spirit, you are not *under* the law. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 5 | : | 19 | - | The ***acts*** of the flesh are ***obvious***: *sexual* immorality, impurity and *debauchery*; |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 20 | - | *idolatry* and ***witchcraft***; ***hatred***, ***discord***, ***jealousy***, ***fits*** of *rage*, *selfish* *ambition*, ***dissensions***, ***factions*** |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 21 | - | and *envy*; ***drunkenness***, ***orgies***, and the like. I ***warn*** you, as I *did* *before*, that those who live like this will not ***inherit*** the kingdom of God. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 5 | : | 22 | - | But the fruit of the Spirit is love, *joy*, *peace*, ***forbearance***, *kindness*, *goodness*, ***faithfulness***, |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 23 | - | gentleness and ***self-control***. *Against* *such* *things* *there* is no law. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 24 | - | Those who belong to Christ Jesus have *crucified* the flesh with *its* ***passions*** and desires. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 25 | - | *Since* we live by the Spirit, let us keep in ***step*** with the Spirit. |
|  | Galatians | 5 | : | 26 | - | Let us not *become* ***conceited***, ***provoking*** and ***envying*** each other. |

## Galatians 6

### Doing Good to All

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| ¶ | Galatians | 6 | : | 1 | - | Brothers and sisters, if someone is ***caught*** in a *sin*, you who live by the Spirit should ***restore*** that *person* ***gently***. *But* *watch* *yourselves*, *or* you also may be ***tempted***. |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 2 | - | Carry each ***other's*** ***burdens***, and in this way you will *fulfill* the law of Christ. |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 3 | - | If *anyone* *thinks* they are *something* *when* they are not, they *deceive* themselves. |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 4 | - | Each one should ***test*** their own ***actions***. *Then* they can *take* ***pride*** in themselves ***alone***, *without* ***comparing*** themselves to someone else, |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 5 | - | for each one should carry their own ***load***. |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 6 | - | ***Nevertheless***, the one who ***receives*** *instruction* in the *word* should *share* all good *things* with their ***instructor***. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 6 | : | 7 | - | Do not be ***deceived***: God ***cannot*** be ***mocked***. A *man* ***reaps*** what *he* sows. |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 8 | - | Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap *destruction*; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap *eternal* *life*. |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 9 | - | Let us not *become* ***weary*** in *doing* good, for *at* the ***proper*** *time* we will reap a ***harvest*** if we do not *give* *up*. |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 10 | - | Therefore, as we *have* *opportunity*, let us do good to all people, *especially* to those who belong to the *family* of *believers*. |

### Not Circumcision but the New Creation

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Galatians | 6 | : | 11 | - | *See* what ***large*** ***letters*** I *use* as I *write* to you with my own hand! |
| ¶ | Galatians | 6 | : | 12 | - | Those who want to ***impress*** people by means of the flesh are trying to ***compel*** you to be circumcised. The *only* *reason* they do this is to ***avoid*** *being* *persecuted* for the cross of Christ. |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 13 | - | Not *even* those who are circumcised *keep* the law, *yet* they want you to be circumcised that they may boast *about* your circumcision in the flesh. |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 14 | - | May I *never* boast *except* in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, *through* *which* the world *has* been *crucified* to me, and I to the world. |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 15 | - | Neither circumcision nor *uncircumcision* means *anything*; what *counts* is the *new* *creation*. |
|  | Galatians | 6 | : | 16 | - | Peace and *mercy* to all who *follow* this *rule*--to the *Israel* of God. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 6 | : | 17 | - | From *now* on, let no one *cause* me *trouble*, for I *bear* on my body the ***marks*** of Jesus. |
| ¶ | Galatians | 6 | : | 18 | - | The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. *Amen*. |

## Ephesians 1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 1 | : | 1 | - | Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To God's holy people in ***Ephesus***, the *faithful* in Christ Jesus: |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 1 | : | 2 | - | Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. |

### Praise for Spiritual Blessings in Christ

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 1 | : | 3 | - | Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has *blessed* us in the heavenly realms with every *spiritual* *blessing* in Christ. |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 4 | - | For he ***chose*** us in him *before* the *creation* of the *world* to be holy and *blameless* in his *sight*. In love |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 5 | - | he predestined us for *adoption* to *sonship* through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will-- |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 6 | - | to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has ***freely*** *given* us in the One he loves. |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 7 | - | In him we have redemption through his *blood*, the forgiveness of *sins*, in accordance with the riches of God's grace |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 8 | - | that he ***lavished*** on us. With all wisdom and understanding, |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 9 | - | he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his *good* pleasure, which he ***purposed*** in Christ, |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 10 | - | to be put *into* ***effect*** when the ***times*** *reach* *their* ***fulfillment***--to *bring* *unity* to all things in heaven and on *earth* under Christ. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 1 | : | 11 | - | In him we were also *chosen*, *having* *been* predestined according to the ***plan*** of him who *works* *out* everything in ***conformity*** with the *purpose* of his will, |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 12 | - | in order that we, who were the *first* to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 13 | - | And you also were ***included*** in Christ when you heard the message of *truth*, the gospel of your *salvation*. When you *believed*, you were ***marked*** in him with a ***seal***, the *promised* Holy Spirit, |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 14 | - | who is a ***deposit*** ***guaranteeing*** our inheritance *until* the redemption of those who are God's ***possession***--to the praise of his glory. |

### Thanksgiving and Prayer

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 1 | : | 15 | - | For this *reason*, *ever* *since* I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 16 | - | I have not *stopped* *giving* *thanks* for you, ***remembering*** you in my prayers. |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 17 | - | I *keep* ***asking*** that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may *give* you the Spirit of wisdom and *revelation*, *so* that you may know him *better*. |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 18 | - | I pray that the *eyes* of your *heart* may be ***enlightened*** in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 19 | - | and his ***incomparably*** *great* power for us who *believe*. That power is the *same* *as* the *mighty* *strength* |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 20 | - | he ***exerted*** when he *raised* Christ from the dead and *seated* him *at* his *right* *hand* in the heavenly realms, |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 21 | - | *far* *above* all *rule* and *authority*, power and *dominion*, and every name that is ***invoked***, not only in the *present* *age* *but* also in the one to come. |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 22 | - | And God ***placed*** all things under his *feet* and ***appointed*** him to be *head* *over* everything for the church, |
|  | Ephesians | 1 | : | 23 | - | which is his body, the fullness of him who ***fills*** everything in every way. |

## Ephesians 2

### Made Alive in Christ

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 2 | : | 1 | - | As for you, you were dead in *your* transgressions and *sins*, |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 2 | - | in which you used to *live* when you ***followed*** the *ways* of this world and of the ***ruler*** of the kingdom of the ***air***, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 3 | - | All of us also *lived* *among* them at one time, ***gratifying*** the ***cravings*** of our flesh and *following* its *desires* and ***thoughts***. *Like* the *rest*, we were by *nature* ***deserving*** of *wrath*. |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 4 | - | But *because* of his *great* *love* for us, God, who is ***rich*** in *mercy*, |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 5 | - | made us *alive* with Christ *even* when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 6 | - | And God *raised* us *up* with Christ and *seated* us with him in the heavenly *realms* in Christ Jesus, |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 7 | - | in order that in the *coming* *ages* he *might* *show* the ***incomparable*** *riches* of his grace, ***expressed*** in his *kindness* to us in Christ Jesus. |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 8 | - | For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this is not from *yourselves*, it is the gift of God-- |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 9 | - | not by works, *so* that no one *can* *boast*. |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 10 | - | For we are God's ***handiwork***, *created* in Christ Jesus to do *good* works, which God ***prepared*** in *advance* for us to do. |

### Jew and Gentile Reconciled Through Christ

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 2 | : | 11 | - | *Therefore*, remember that *formerly* you who are *Gentiles* by birth and *called* "*uncircumcised*" by those who ***call*** *themselves* "the *circumcision*" (which is *done* in the body by human hands)-- |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 12 | - | remember that at that time you were *separate* from Christ, ***excluded*** from *citizenship* in *Israel* and foreigners to the *covenants* of the *promise*, without *hope* and without God in the world. |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 13 | - | But now in Christ Jesus you who *once* were far away have been *brought* near by the *blood* of Christ. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 2 | : | 14 | - | For he himself is our peace, who has made the two ***groups*** one and has *destroyed* the ***barrier***, the ***dividing*** ***wall*** of hostility, |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 15 | - | by ***setting*** *aside* in his flesh the *law* with its *commands* and *regulations*. His *purpose* *was* to ***create*** in himself one *new* ***humanity*** *out* of the two, *thus* *making* peace, |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 16 | - | and in one body to *reconcile* both of them to God through the *cross*, by which he *put* to *death* *their* hostility. |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 17 | - | He *came* and *preached* peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 18 | - | For through him we both have ***access*** to the *Father* by one Spirit. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 2 | : | 19 | - | ***Consequently***, you are no *longer* foreigners and ***strangers***, but *fellow* ***citizens*** with God's people and also *members* of his *household*, |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 20 | - | built *on* the ***foundation*** of the apostles and *prophets*, with Christ Jesus himself as the ***chief*** ***cornerstone***. |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 21 | - | In him the *whole* *building* is *joined* together and ***rises*** to become a *holy* ***temple*** in the Lord. |
|  | Ephesians | 2 | : | 22 | - | And in him you *too* are *being* built together to become a ***dwelling*** in which God *lives* by his Spirit. |

## Ephesians 3

### God's Marvelous Plan for the Gentiles

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 3 | : | 1 | - | For this reason I, *Paul*, the *prisoner* of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 3 | : | 2 | - | ***Surely*** you have heard *about* the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 3 | - | that is, the mystery made known to me by *revelation*, as I have *already* *written* ***briefly***. |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 4 | - | In ***reading*** this, *then*, you will be able to *understand* my *insight* *into* the mystery of Christ, |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 5 | - | which was not made known to people in *other* generations as it *has* now *been* *revealed* by the Spirit to God's holy *apostles* and prophets. |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 6 | - | This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are *heirs* together with *Israel*, *members* together of one body, and ***sharers*** together in the *promise* in Christ Jesus. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 3 | : | 7 | - | I *became* *a* servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 8 | - | *Although* I *am* *less* than the ***least*** of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to *preach* to the Gentiles the ***boundless*** riches of Christ, |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 9 | - | and to *make* ***plain*** to *everyone* the administration of this mystery, which for *ages* ***past*** was *kept* *hidden* in God, who *created* all things. |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 10 | - | His ***intent*** was that now, through the church, the ***manifold*** *wisdom* of God *should* be made known to the *rulers* and *authorities* in the heavenly realms, |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 11 | - | according to his *eternal* *purpose* that he ***accomplished*** in Christ Jesus *our* Lord. |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 12 | - | In him and through faith in him we may ***approach*** God with *freedom* and *confidence*. |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 13 | - | I ask you, *therefore*, not to be *discouraged* *because* of my *sufferings* for you, which are your glory. |

### A Prayer for the Ephesians

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 3 | : | 14 | - | For this reason I ***kneel*** *before* the Father, |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 15 | - | from *whom* *every* *family* in heaven and on *earth* ***derives*** *its* *name*. |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 16 | - | I pray that *out* of his glorious riches he may ***strengthen*** you with power through his Spirit in your ***inner*** being, |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 17 | - | so that Christ may *dwell* in your *hearts* through faith. And I pray that you, being *rooted* and *established* in love, |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 18 | - | may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to ***grasp*** *how* ***wide*** and *long* and *high* and ***deep*** is the love of Christ, |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 19 | - | and to *know* this love that ***surpasses*** *knowledge*--that you may be *filled* to the *measure* of all the fullness of God. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 3 | : | 20 | - | Now to him who is able to *do* ***immeasurably*** *more* than all we ask *or* ***imagine***, according to his power that is *at* *work* ***within*** *us*, |
|  | Ephesians | 3 | : | 21 | - | to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus *throughout* all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. |

## Ephesians 4

### Unity and Maturity in the Body of Christ

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 4 | : | 1 | - | As a *prisoner* for the Lord, then, I ***urge*** you to live a life worthy of the ***calling*** you have received. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 2 | - | Be ***completely*** ***humble*** and ***gentle***; be ***patient***, *bearing* with one another in love. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 3 | - | *Make* every ***effort*** to keep the unity of the Spirit through the ***bond*** of peace. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 4 | - | There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one *hope* when you were called; |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 5 | - | one Lord, one faith, one *baptism*; |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 6 | - | one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 4 | : | 7 | - | But to each one of *us* *grace* has been given as Christ ***apportioned*** it. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 8 | - | This is why it *says*: "When he ascended on *high*, he *took* *many* ***captives*** and gave *gifts* to his people." |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 4 | : | 9 | - | (What does "he ascended" *mean* *except* that he *also* descended to the ***lower***, *earthly* ***regions***? |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 10 | - | He who descended is the *very* one who ascended ***higher*** *than* all the ***heavens***, in order to *fill* the whole ***universe***.) |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 11 | - | So Christ *himself* gave the *apostles*, the *prophets*, the ***evangelists***, the ***pastors*** and ***teachers***, |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 12 | - | to ***equip*** his people for *works* of *service*, so that the body of Christ may be *built* up |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 13 | - | *until* we all *reach* unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, *attaining* to the whole *measure* of the fullness of Christ. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 4 | : | 14 | - | Then we will no longer be ***infants***, ***tossed*** *back* and ***forth*** by the ***waves***, and ***blown*** *here* and there by every ***wind*** of *teaching* and by the ***cunning*** and ***craftiness*** of people in their deceitful ***scheming***. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 15 | - | *Instead*, *speaking* the truth in love, we will *grow* to become in every *respect* the mature body of him who is the *head*, that is, Christ. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 16 | - | From him the whole body, *joined* and held together by every ***supporting*** ***ligament***, *grows* and ***builds*** *itself* up in love, as each ***part*** does its work. |

### Instructions for Christian Living

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 4 | : | 17 | - | So I tell you this, and ***insist*** on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the *Gentiles* do, in the ***futility*** of their ***thinking***. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 18 | - | They are ***darkened*** in their *understanding* and ***separated*** from the life of God because of the ***ignorance*** that is in *them* ***due*** to the ***hardening*** of their *hearts*. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 19 | - | *Having* *lost* all ***sensitivity***, they have given *themselves* over to ***sensuality*** so as to *indulge* in every kind of impurity, and they are *full* of greed. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 4 | : | 20 | - | That, *however*, is not the way of life you learned |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 21 | - | when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 22 | - | You were taught, with regard to your *former* way of life, to put off your old self, which is *being* ***corrupted*** by its deceitful *desires*; |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 23 | - | to be *made* new in the ***attitude*** of your minds; |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 24 | - | and to put on the new self, *created* to be *like* God in *true* *righteousness* and ***holiness***. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 4 | : | 25 | - | *Therefore* each of you must put off ***falsehood*** and *speak* ***truthfully*** to your *neighbor*, for we are all *members* of one body. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 26 | - | "In your anger do not *sin*": Do not let the ***sun*** *go* ***down*** *while* you are *still* ***angry***, |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 27 | - | and do not *give* the ***devil*** a ***foothold***. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 28 | - | Anyone who has been ***stealing*** must ***steal*** no longer, but must work, *doing* something ***useful*** with their *own* *hands*, that they may have something to *share* with those in need. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 4 | : | 29 | - | Do not let *any* ***unwholesome*** *talk* *come* *out* of your ***mouths***, but *only* what is ***helpful*** for *building* *others* up *according* to their *needs*, that it may ***benefit*** those who ***listen***. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 30 | - | And do not ***grieve*** the *Holy* Spirit of God, with *whom* you were ***sealed*** for the day of *redemption*. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 31 | - | Get rid of all ***bitterness***, *rage* and anger, ***brawling*** and *slander*, *along* with every *form* of *malice*. |
|  | Ephesians | 4 | : | 32 | - | Be kind and ***compassionate*** to one another, ***forgiving*** each *other*, just as in Christ God *forgave* you. |

## Ephesians 5

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 5 | : | 1 | - | *Follow* God's *example*, therefore, as *dearly* loved children |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 2 | - | and *walk* in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant *offering* and *sacrifice* to God. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 5 | : | 3 | - | But *among* you there must not be even a ***hint*** of *sexual* *immorality*, or of any *kind* of *impurity*, or of *greed*, because *these* are ***improper*** for God's holy people. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 4 | - | *Nor* should there be ***obscenity***, foolish *talk* or ***coarse*** ***joking***, which are out of *place*, but rather *thanksgiving*. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 5 | - | For of this you *can* be *sure*: No ***immoral***, ***impure*** or ***greedy*** person--such a person is *an* ***idolater***--*has* any *inheritance* in the kingdom of Christ and of God. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 6 | - | Let no one *deceive* you with ***empty*** *words*, for because of such *things* God's *wrath* *comes* on those who are disobedient. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 7 | - | Therefore do not be ***partners*** with them. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 5 | : | 8 | - | For you *were* *once* darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 9 | - | (for the fruit of the light ***consists*** in all *goodness*, *righteousness* and *truth*) |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 10 | - | and *find* out what *pleases* the Lord. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 11 | - | *Have* *nothing* to do with the ***fruitless*** ***deeds*** of darkness, but rather ***expose*** them. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 12 | - | It is ***shameful*** even to ***mention*** what the disobedient do in *secret*. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 13 | - | But everything ***exposed*** by the light *becomes* *visible*--and everything that is ***illuminated*** *becomes* a light. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 14 | - | This is why it is *said*: "***Wake*** up, ***sleeper***, ***rise*** from the dead, and Christ will *shine* on you." |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 5 | : | 15 | - | Be *very* ***careful***, *then*, *how* you live--not as ***unwise*** but as *wise*, |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 16 | - | *making* the most of every *opportunity*, because the *days* are *evil*. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 17 | - | Therefore do not be foolish, but *understand* what the *Lord's* will is. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 18 | - | Do not *get* ***drunk*** on ***wine***, which ***leads*** to *debauchery*. *Instead*, be filled with the Spirit, |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 19 | - | *speaking* to one another with *psalms*, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. ***Sing*** and make ***music*** from your *heart* to the Lord, |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 20 | - | *always* *giving* thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. |

### Instructions for Christian Households

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 5 | : | 21 | - | Submit to one another out of *reverence* for Christ. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 5 | : | 22 | - | Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 23 | - | For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the *Savior*. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 24 | - | Now as the church ***submits*** to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 5 | : | 25 | - | Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 26 | - | to make her holy, ***cleansing*** her by the ***washing*** with ***water*** *through* the word, |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 27 | - | and to *present* her to himself as a ***radiant*** church, *without* ***stain*** or ***wrinkle*** or any *other* *blemish*, but holy and blameless. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 28 | - | In this *same* way, husbands ***ought*** to love their wives as their own *bodies*. He who loves his wife loves himself. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 29 | - | *After* all, no one *ever* ***hated*** their own body, but *they* ***feed*** and *care* for their body, just as Christ *does* the church-- |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 30 | - | for we are *members* of his body. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 31 | - | "For this *reason* a *man* will ***leave*** his father and *mother* and be *united* to his wife, and the *two* will *become* one *flesh*." |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 32 | - | This is a ***profound*** *mystery*--but I *am* ***talking*** *about* Christ and the church. |
|  | Ephesians | 5 | : | 33 | - | *However*, *each* one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must *respect* her husband. |

## Ephesians 6

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 6 | : | 1 | - | Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 2 | - | "*Honor* your father and *mother*"--which is the *first* ***commandment*** with a promise-- |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 3 | - | "so that it may *go* *well* with you and that you may ***enjoy*** *long* *life* on the earth." |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 6 | : | 4 | - | Fathers, do not ***exasperate*** your children; *instead*, *bring* them up in the ***training*** and *instruction* of the Lord. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 6 | : | 5 | - | Slaves, obey your earthly masters with *respect* and *fear*, and with sincerity of heart, *just* as you *would* obey Christ. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 6 | - | Obey them not only to *win* their *favor* when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 7 | - | *Serve* ***wholeheartedly***, as if you *were* *serving* the Lord, not people, |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 8 | - | because you know that the Lord will *reward* *each* one for *whatever* *good* they do, *whether* they are *slave* or free. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 6 | : | 9 | - | And masters, *treat* your slaves in the same *way*. Do not ***threaten*** them, *since* you know that he who is *both* their *Master* and ***yours*** is in heaven, and there is no *favoritism* with him. |

### The Armor of God

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 6 | : | 10 | - | *Finally*, be ***strong*** in the Lord and in *his* *mighty* *power*. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 11 | - | Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the ***devil's*** ***schemes***. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 12 | - | For our *struggle* is not against *flesh* and *blood*, but against the *rulers*, against the *authorities*, against the *powers* of this ***dark*** *world* and against the *spiritual* forces of evil in the heavenly realms. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 13 | - | *Therefore* put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ***ground***, and *after* you have *done* everything, to stand. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 14 | - | Stand firm *then*, with the ***belt*** of *truth* ***buckled*** ***around*** your ***waist***, with the ***breastplate*** of *righteousness* in *place*, |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 15 | - | and with your *feet* ***fitted*** with the ***readiness*** that comes from the gospel of peace. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 16 | - | In ***addition*** to all this, take up the ***shield*** of faith, with which you can ***extinguish*** all the ***flaming*** ***arrows*** of the evil one. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 17 | - | Take the ***helmet*** of *salvation* and the ***sword*** of the Spirit, which is the word of God. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 6 | : | 18 | - | And pray in the Spirit on all ***occasions*** with all ***kinds*** of *prayers* and *requests*. With this in *mind*, be ***alert*** and *always* *keep* on *praying* for all the Lord's people. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 19 | - | Pray also for me, that ***whenever*** I *speak*, *words* may be given me so that I will fearlessly *make* *known* the mystery of the gospel, |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 20 | - | for which I am an ***ambassador*** in *chains*. Pray that I may *declare* it fearlessly, as I should. |

### Final Greetings

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 6 | : | 21 | - | *Tychicus*, the *dear* *brother* and *faithful* *servant* in the Lord, will tell you everything, so that you also may know how I am and *what* I am doing. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 22 | - | I am sending him to you for this *very* *purpose*, that you may know how *we* are, and that he may *encourage* you. |
| ¶ | Ephesians | 6 | : | 23 | - | Peace to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. |
|  | Ephesians | 6 | : | 24 | - | *Grace* to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an ***undying*** love. |

## Philippians 1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 1 | : | 1 | - | *Paul* and *Timothy*, ***servants*** of Christ Jesus, To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus *at* ***Philippi***, together with the ***overseers*** and ***deacons***: |
| ¶ | Philippians | 1 | : | 2 | - | Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. |

### Thanksgiving and Prayer

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 1 | : | 3 | - | I *thank* my God every *time* I *remember* you. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 4 | - | In all my prayers for all of you, I always *pray* with joy |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 5 | - | because of your ***partnership*** in the gospel from the *first* day until now, |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 6 | - | being confident of this, that he who *began* a good work in you will *carry* it on to ***completion*** until the day of Christ Jesus. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 1 | : | 7 | - | It is *right* for me to ***feel*** this way about all of you, since I have you in my *heart* and, whether I am in chains or ***defending*** and ***confirming*** the gospel, all of you *share* in God's grace with me. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 8 | - | God can *testify* *how* I *long* for all of you with the ***affection*** of Christ Jesus. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 1 | : | 9 | - | And this is my *prayer*: that your love may abound more and more in *knowledge* and ***depth*** of *insight*, |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 10 | - | so that you may be able to ***discern*** what is ***best*** and may be *pure* and *blameless* for the day of Christ, |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 11 | - | filled with the fruit of righteousness that *comes* through Jesus Christ--to the *glory* and *praise* of God. |

### Paul's Chains Advance the Gospel

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 1 | : | 12 | - | Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has ***actually*** *served* to *advance* the gospel. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 13 | - | As a *result*, it has become *clear* *throughout* the *whole* ***palace*** *guard* and to *everyone* *else* that I am in chains for Christ. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 14 | - | And because of my chains, *most* of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and ***dare*** all the more to *proclaim* the gospel without *fear*. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 1 | : | 15 | - | It is true that *some* preach Christ out of *envy* and ***rivalry***, but *others* out of ***goodwill***. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 16 | - | The ***latter*** do so out of love, *knowing* that I am *put* *here* for the ***defense*** of the gospel. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 17 | - | The *former* preach Christ out of selfish *ambition*, not ***sincerely***, ***supposing*** that they can ***stir*** *up* *trouble* for me *while* I am in chains. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 18 | - | But what *does* it *matter*? The ***important*** *thing* is that in every way, whether from *false* ***motives*** or true, Christ is *preached*. And because of this I rejoice. *Yes*, and I will continue to rejoice, |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 19 | - | for I know that through your prayers and God's ***provision*** of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will *turn* out for my ***deliverance***. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 20 | - | I *eagerly* ***expect*** and *hope* that I will in *no* way be ***ashamed***, but will have ***sufficient*** ***courage*** so that now as always Christ will be *exalted* in my body, whether by *life* or by *death*. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 21 | - | For to me, to *live* is Christ and to ***die*** is *gain*. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 22 | - | If I am to *go* on *living* in the body, this will *mean* ***fruitful*** *labor* for me. *Yet* what ***shall*** I ***choose***? I do not know! |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 23 | - | I am *torn* ***between*** the *two*: I *desire* to ***depart*** and be with Christ, *which* is *better* by *far*; |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 24 | - | but it is more *necessary* for you that I remain in the body. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 25 | - | ***Convinced*** of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your ***progress*** and joy in the faith, |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 26 | - | so that through my being with you *again* your ***boasting*** in Christ Jesus will abound on *account* of me. |

### Life Worthy of the Gospel

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 1 | : | 27 | - | *Whatever* ***happens***, ***conduct*** *yourselves* in a ***manner*** *worthy* of the gospel of Christ. *Then*, whether I *come* and *see* you or only hear about you in my *absence*, I will know that you *stand* firm in the one Spirit, ***striving*** together as one for the faith of the gospel |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 28 | - | without being ***frightened*** in *any* way by those who ***oppose*** you. This is a ***sign*** to *them* that they will be *destroyed*, but that you will be *saved*--and that by God. |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 29 | - | For it has *been* ***granted*** to you on *behalf* of Christ not only to *believe* in him, but *also* to ***suffer*** for him, |
|  | Philippians | 1 | : | 30 | - | since you *are* ***going*** through the *same* *struggle* you *saw* I *had*, and now hear that I *still* have. |

## Philippians 2

### Imitating Christ's Humility

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 2 | : | 1 | - | Therefore if you have any ***encouragement*** from being *united* with Christ, if any *comfort* from his love, if any ***common*** ***sharing*** in the Spirit, if any ***tenderness*** and *compassion*, |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 2 | - | then make my joy *complete* by being ***like-minded***, *having* the same love, being one in spirit and of one *mind*. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 3 | - | Do nothing out of selfish *ambition* or vain ***conceit***. Rather, in *humility* *value* others above yourselves, |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 4 | - | not ***looking*** to your own interests but *each* of you to the interests of the others. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 2 | : | 5 | - | In your ***relationships*** with one *another*, have the same ***mindset*** as Christ Jesus: |
| ¶ | Philippians | 2 | : | 6 | - | Who, being in very nature God, did not *consider* ***equality*** with God *something* to be *used* to his own ***advantage***; |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 7 | - | rather, he made himself nothing by ***taking*** the very nature of a *servant*, being made in *human* ***likeness***. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 8 | - | And being *found* in *appearance* as a *man*, he ***humbled*** himself by *becoming* ***obedient*** to death-- even death on a *cross*! |
| ¶ | Philippians | 2 | : | 9 | - | Therefore God *exalted* him to the ***highest*** *place* and *gave* him the name that is above every name, |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 10 | - | that at the name of Jesus every ***knee*** should ***bow***, in heaven and on earth and *under* the earth, |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 11 | - | and every ***tongue*** ***acknowledge*** that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the *glory* of God the Father. |

### Do Everything Without Grumbling

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 2 | : | 12 | - | Therefore, my dear *friends*, as you have *always* ***obeyed***--not only in my ***presence***, but *now* *much* more in my *absence*--*continue* to work out your *salvation* with *fear* and ***trembling***, |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 13 | - | for it is God who works in you to will and to *act* in order to *fulfill* his *good* *purpose*. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 2 | : | 14 | - | Do *everything* without ***grumbling*** or ***arguing***, |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 15 | - | so that you may *become* *blameless* and *pure*, "*children* of God without ***fault*** in a ***warped*** and ***crooked*** ***generation***." Then you will *shine* *among* *them* like ***stars*** in the ***sky*** |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 16 | - | as you *hold* ***firmly*** to the word of life. And then I will be able to *boast* on the day of Christ that I did not ***run*** or *labor* in vain. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 17 | - | But even if I am being ***poured*** out like a *drink* *offering* on the *sacrifice* and *service* *coming* from your *faith*, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 18 | - | So you *too* should be glad and rejoice with me. |

### Timothy and Epaphroditus

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 2 | : | 19 | - | I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be ***cheered*** when I *receive* *news* about you. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 20 | - | I have *no* one *else* like him, who will *show* ***genuine*** *concern* for your ***welfare***. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 21 | - | For *everyone* ***looks*** out for their own interests, not *those* of Jesus Christ. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 22 | - | But you know that Timothy has *proved* himself, because as a *son* with his father he has *served* with me in the work of the gospel. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 23 | - | I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see *how* *things* *go* with me. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 24 | - | And I am confident in the Lord that I *myself* will *come* soon. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 2 | : | 25 | - | But I *think* it is *necessary* to send *back* to you *Epaphroditus*, my *brother*, ***co-worker*** and *fellow* ***soldier***, who is also your ***messenger***, *whom* you *sent* to *take* *care* of my *needs*. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 26 | - | For he ***longs*** for all of you and is ***distressed*** because you *heard* he was ill. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 27 | - | *Indeed* he was ill, and almost died. But God *had* *mercy* on him, and not on him only but also on me, to ***spare*** me *sorrow* ***upon*** *sorrow*. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 28 | - | Therefore I am all the more *eager* to send him, so that when you see him *again* you may be glad and I may have *less* ***anxiety***. |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 29 | - | So then, *welcome* him in the Lord with *great* joy, and *honor* *people* like him, |
|  | Philippians | 2 | : | 30 | - | because he almost died for the work of Christ. He ***risked*** his life to make *up* for the *help* you yourselves *could* not *give* me. |

## Philippians 3

### No Confidence in the Flesh

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 3 | : | 1 | - | ***Further***, my brothers and sisters, *rejoice* in the Lord! It is no *trouble* for me to *write* the *same* things to you again, and it is a ***safeguard*** for you. |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 2 | - | Watch out for those ***dogs***, those ***evildoers***, those ***mutilators*** of the flesh. |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 3 | - | For it is we who are the *circumcision*, we who *serve* God by his Spirit, who *boast* in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh-- |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 4 | - | though I myself have *reasons* for such confidence. If someone *else* *thinks* they have *reasons* to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 5 | - | *circumcised* on the ***eighth*** *day*, of the *people* of *Israel*, of the ***tribe*** of ***Benjamin***, a ***Hebrew*** of ***Hebrews***; in regard to the law, a ***Pharisee***; |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 6 | - | as for *zeal*, ***persecuting*** the *church*; as for righteousness *based* on the law, ***faultless***. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 3 | : | 7 | - | But *whatever* *were* ***gains*** to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 8 | - | What is more, I consider everything a loss *because* of the ***surpassing*** ***worth*** of *knowing* Christ Jesus my Lord, for *whose* sake I have lost all things. I consider *them* ***garbage***, that I *may* *gain* Christ |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 9 | - | and be *found* in him, not *having* a righteousness of my *own* that comes from the law, but that which is *through* faith in Christ--the righteousness that comes from God on the ***basis*** of faith. |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 10 | - | I want to know Christ--*yes*, to know the power of his resurrection and ***participation*** in his *sufferings*, *becoming* like him in his *death*, |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 11 | - | and so, *somehow*, *attaining* to the resurrection from the dead. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 3 | : | 12 | - | Not that I have already ***obtained*** all *this*, *or* have already *arrived* *at* my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus *took* hold of me. |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 13 | - | Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself *yet* to have *taken* hold of it. But *one* thing I do: ***Forgetting*** what is ***behind*** and ***straining*** toward what is ***ahead***, |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 14 | - | I press on toward the goal to win the ***prize*** for which God has called me ***heavenward*** in Christ Jesus. |

### Following Paul's Example

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 3 | : | 15 | - | All of us, *then*, who are *mature* *should* take such a *view* of things. And if on *some* ***point*** you *think* ***differently***, that *too* God will *make* *clear* to you. |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 16 | - | *Only* *let* us live *up* to what we have already ***attained***. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 3 | : | 17 | - | ***Join*** *together* in *following* my *example*, brothers and sisters, and *just* as you have us as a ***model***, *keep* *your* *eyes* on those who live as we do. |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 18 | - | For, as I have ***often*** *told* you *before* and now *tell* you again *even* *with* ***tears***, *many* live as *enemies* of the cross of Christ. |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 19 | - | Their ***destiny*** is *destruction*, their god is their ***stomach***, and their *glory* is in their ***shame***. Their *mind* is *set* on earthly things. |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 20 | - | But our *citizenship* is in heaven. And we eagerly *await* a *Savior* from *there*, the Lord Jesus Christ, |
|  | Philippians | 3 | : | 21 | - | who, by the power that ***enables*** him to *bring* everything under his *control*, will ***transform*** our ***lowly*** *bodies* so that they will be like his *glorious* *body*. |

## Philippians 4

### Closing Appeal for Steadfastness and Unity

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 4 | : | 1 | - | Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you *whom* I *love* and long for, my joy and ***crown***, *stand* firm in the Lord in this *way*, *dear* friends! |
| ¶ | Philippians | 4 | : | 2 | - | I plead with ***Euodia*** and I plead with ***Syntyche*** to be of the *same* *mind* in the Lord. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 3 | - | Yes, and I ask you, my true ***companion***, *help* *these* *women* *since* they have ***contended*** at my ***side*** in the *cause* of the gospel, *along* with ***Clement*** and the *rest* of my *co-workers*, *whose* ***names*** are in the book of life. |

### Final Exhortations

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 4 | : | 4 | - | Rejoice in the Lord *always*. I will *say* it *again*: Rejoice! |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 5 | - | Let your *gentleness* be ***evident*** to all. The Lord is *near*. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 6 | - | Do not be ***anxious*** about anything, but in every situation, *by* *prayer* and ***petition***, with *thanksgiving*, *present* your *requests* to God. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 7 | - | And the peace of God, *which* ***transcends*** all *understanding*, will *guard* your *hearts* and your *minds* in Christ Jesus. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 4 | : | 8 | - | *Finally*, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is ***noble***, whatever is *right*, whatever is *pure*, whatever is ***lovely***, whatever is ***admirable***--*if* anything is ***excellent*** or ***praiseworthy***--*think* about *such* things. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 9 | - | Whatever you have learned or received or *heard* from me, or *seen* in me--*put* it *into* ***practice***. And the God of peace will be with you. |

### Thanks for Their Gifts

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 4 | : | 10 | - | I ***rejoiced*** ***greatly*** in the Lord that at ***last*** you *renewed* your *concern* for me. *Indeed*, you *were* ***concerned***, but you *had* *no* *opportunity* to *show* it. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 11 | - | I am not *saying* this *because* I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the *circumstances*. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 12 | - | I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have *plenty*. I have learned the *secret* of *being* content in *any* and every situation, whether *well* ***fed*** or ***hungry***, whether *living* in *plenty* or in *want*. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 13 | - | I *can* do all this *through* him who *gives* me *strength*. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 4 | : | 14 | - | *Yet* it was *good* of you to share in my ***troubles***. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 15 | - | ***Moreover***, *as* you ***Philippians*** know, in the ***early*** *days* of your ***acquaintance*** with the gospel, when I *set* *out* from ***Macedonia***, not *one* *church* ***shared*** with me in the *matter* of *giving* and ***receiving***, *except* you *only*; |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 16 | - | for *even* when I was in ***Thessalonica***, you sent me ***aid*** more than *once* when I was in need. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 17 | - | Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be *credited* to your *account*. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 18 | - | I have received *full* ***payment*** and have more than ***enough***. I am ***amply*** ***supplied***, *now* that I have received from *Epaphroditus* the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant *offering*, *an* ***acceptable*** *sacrifice*, ***pleasing*** to God. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 19 | - | And my God will ***meet*** all your *needs* *according* to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 4 | : | 20 | - | To *our* God and *Father* be glory for ever and ever. Amen. |

### Final Greetings

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Philippians | 4 | : | 21 | - | ***Greet*** all God's people in Christ Jesus. The brothers and sisters who are with me send greetings. |
|  | Philippians | 4 | : | 22 | - | All God's people *here* send you greetings, *especially* *those* who belong to ***Caesar's*** *household*. |
| ¶ | Philippians | 4 | : | 23 | - | The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your *spirit*. Amen. |

## Colossians 1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Colossians | 1 | : | 1 | - | Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and *Timothy* our *brother*, |
| ¶ | Colossians | 1 | : | 2 | - | To God's holy people in ***Colossae***, the faithful *brothers* and *sisters* in Christ: Grace and peace to you from God our Father. |

### Thanksgiving and Prayer

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Colossians | 1 | : | 3 | - | We *always* *thank* God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we *pray* for you, |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 4 | - | because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people-- |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 5 | - | the faith and love that ***spring*** from the hope ***stored*** up for you in heaven and about which you have *already* heard in the *true* *message* of the gospel |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 6 | - | that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing *throughout* the *whole* *world*--*just* as it has been *doing* among you since the day you heard it and ***truly*** ***understood*** God's grace. |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 7 | - | You *learned* it from *Epaphras*, our *dear* *fellow* servant, who is a faithful *minister* of Christ on our *behalf*, |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 8 | - | and who *also* *told* us of your love in the Spirit. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 1 | : | 9 | - | For this *reason*, since the day we heard about you, we have not *stopped* *praying* for you. We ***continually*** *ask* God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and *understanding* that the Spirit *gives*, |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 10 | - | so that you may *live* a life worthy of the Lord and *please* him in every way: bearing fruit in every *good* *work*, growing in the knowledge of God, |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 11 | - | *being* *strengthened* with all *power* *according* to his glorious might so that you may have *great* ***endurance*** and patience, |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 12 | - | and *giving* ***joyful*** *thanks* to the Father, who has ***qualified*** you to share in the *inheritance* of his holy people in the kingdom of light. |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 13 | - | For he has ***rescued*** us from the *dominion* of *darkness* and *brought* us *into* the kingdom of the Son he loves, |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 14 | - | in *whom* we have *redemption*, the forgiveness of sins. |

### The Supremacy of the Son of God

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Colossians | 1 | : | 15 | - | The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn *over* all *creation*. |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 16 | - | For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, *visible* and invisible, whether ***thrones*** or *powers* or *rulers* or *authorities*; all things have been created through him and for him. |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 17 | - | He is *before* all things, and in him all things *hold* *together*. |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 18 | - | And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the *beginning* and the firstborn from among the *dead*, so that in *everything* he might have the ***supremacy***. |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 19 | - | For God *was* *pleased* to have all his fullness *dwell* in him, |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 20 | - | and through him to *reconcile* to *himself* all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by *making* peace through his *blood*, ***shed*** on the cross. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 1 | : | 21 | - | *Once* you were *alienated* from God and were *enemies* in your *minds* because of your *evil* ***behavior***. |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 22 | - | But now he has ***reconciled*** you by Christ's ***physical*** body through *death* to present you holy in his *sight*, *without* *blemish* and *free* from ***accusation***-- |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 23 | - | if you *continue* in your faith, *established* and *firm*, and do not ***move*** from the hope *held* *out* in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been ***proclaimed*** to every ***creature*** *under* heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. |

### Paul's Labor for the Church

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Colossians | 1 | : | 24 | - | Now I rejoice in what I *am* ***suffering*** for you, and I fill up in *my* *flesh* what is *still* ***lacking*** in regard to Christ's ***afflictions***, for the sake of his body, which is the church. |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 25 | - | I have become its servant by the ***commission*** God *gave* me to present to you the word of God in its fullness-- |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 26 | - | the mystery that has been *kept* *hidden* for *ages* and *generations*, but is now ***disclosed*** to the Lord's people. |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 27 | - | To *them* God has *chosen* to make *known* among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of *glory*. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 1 | : | 28 | - | He is the one we *proclaim*, ***admonishing*** and *teaching* everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone *fully* *mature* in Christ. |
|  | Colossians | 1 | : | 29 | - | To this ***end*** I ***strenuously*** ***contend*** with all the ***energy*** Christ so ***powerfully*** *works* in me. |

## Colossians 2

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Colossians | 2 | : | 1 | - | I want you to know how *hard* I am ***contending*** for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not ***met*** *me* *personally*. |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 2 | - | My *goal* is that they may *be* ***encouraged*** in *heart* and *united* in *love*, so that they may have the *full* *riches* of *complete* *understanding*, in order that they may know the mystery of God, ***namely***, Christ, |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 3 | - | in whom are *hidden* all the ***treasures*** of wisdom and *knowledge*. |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 4 | - | I tell you this so that no one may *deceive* you by ***fine-sounding*** ***arguments***. |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 5 | - | For though I am ***absent*** from you in body, I am *present* with you in spirit and ***delight*** to see how ***disciplined*** you are and how *firm* your faith in Christ is. |

### Spiritual Fullness in Christ

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Colossians | 2 | : | 6 | - | So *then*, *just* as you *received* Christ *Jesus* as *Lord*, *continue* to *live* your lives in him, |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 7 | - | rooted and *built* up in him, *strengthened* in the faith as you were *taught*, and ***overflowing*** with ***thankfulness***. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 2 | : | 8 | - | See to it that no one ***takes*** you ***captive*** through ***hollow*** and ***deceptive*** ***philosophy***, which *depends* on human ***tradition*** and the elemental spiritual forces of this world *rather* *than* on Christ. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 2 | : | 9 | - | For in Christ all the fullness of the ***Deity*** lives in ***bodily*** *form*, |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 10 | - | and in Christ you have been *brought* to fullness. He is the head over *every* *power* and authority. |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 11 | - | In him you were also circumcised with a *circumcision* not ***performed*** by human *hands*. Your whole *self* ***ruled*** by the flesh *was* *put* *off* when you were circumcised by Christ, |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 12 | - | having been ***buried*** with him in *baptism*, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 2 | : | 13 | - | When you were dead in your sins and in the *uncircumcision* of your flesh, God made you *alive* with Christ. He *forgave* us all our sins, |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 14 | - | having ***canceled*** the ***charge*** of our ***legal*** ***indebtedness***, which *stood* *against* us and *condemned* us; he *has* *taken* it *away*, ***nailing*** it to the cross. |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 15 | - | And having ***disarmed*** the *powers* and *authorities*, he made a ***public*** ***spectacle*** of them, ***triumphing*** over them by the cross. |

### Freedom From Human Rules

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Colossians | 2 | : | 16 | - | Therefore do not let anyone ***judge*** you by what you *eat* or *drink*, or with regard to a ***religious*** ***festival***, a *New* ***Moon*** ***celebration*** or a ***Sabbath*** *day*. |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 17 | - | These are a ***shadow*** of the things that were to come; the ***reality***, *however*, is *found* in Christ. |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 18 | - | Do not let anyone who ***delights*** in false humility and the worship of *angels* ***disqualify*** you. Such a *person* also ***goes*** *into* *great* ***detail*** *about* what they have *seen*; they are ***puffed*** up with ***idle*** ***notions*** by their ***unspiritual*** *mind*. |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 19 | - | They have *lost* ***connection*** with the head, from whom the whole body, ***supported*** and held together by its ***ligaments*** and ***sinews***, *grows* as God ***causes*** it to *grow*. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 2 | : | 20 | - | Since you *died* with Christ to the elemental spiritual forces of this world, *why*, as though you *still* *belonged* to the world, do you *submit* to its rules: |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 21 | - | "Do not ***handle***! Do not ***taste***! Do not ***touch***!"? |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 22 | - | These rules, which have to do with things that are all ***destined*** to ***perish*** with *use*, are *based* on ***merely*** human *commands* and ***teachings***. |
|  | Colossians | 2 | : | 23 | - | Such *regulations* *indeed* have *an* *appearance* of wisdom, with their ***self-imposed*** worship, their false humility and their *harsh* ***treatment*** of the body, but they ***lack*** *any* *value* in ***restraining*** ***sensual*** ***indulgence***. |

## Colossians 3

### Living as Those Made Alive in Christ

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Colossians | 3 | : | 1 | - | Since, then, you have *been* *raised* with Christ, set your hearts on things above, *where* Christ is, *seated* at the right hand of God. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 2 | - | Set your *minds* on things above, not on earthly things. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 3 | - | For you *died*, and your life is now *hidden* with Christ in God. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 4 | - | When Christ, who is your life, ***appears***, then you also will ***appear*** with him in *glory*. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 3 | : | 5 | - | Put to *death*, therefore, whatever ***belongs*** to your earthly *nature*: *sexual* immorality, *impurity*, ***lust***, *evil* *desires* and *greed*, which is *idolatry*. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 6 | - | Because of these, the *wrath* of God is coming. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 7 | - | You used to *walk* in these *ways*, in the life you *once* *lived*. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 8 | - | But now you *must* also *rid* yourselves of all *such* things as these: *anger*, *rage*, *malice*, *slander*, and ***filthy*** ***language*** from your ***lips***. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 9 | - | Do not *lie* to each other, since you have *taken* *off* your old self with its ***practices*** |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 10 | - | and have put on the new self, which is *being* *renewed* in *knowledge* in the image of its ***Creator***. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 11 | - | *Here* there is no *Gentile* or *Jew*, *circumcised* or *uncircumcised*, ***barbarian***, ***Scythian***, *slave* or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 3 | : | 12 | - | Therefore, as *God's* *chosen* *people*, *holy* and *dearly* *loved*, ***clothe*** yourselves with *compassion*, *kindness*, *humility*, *gentleness* and patience. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 13 | - | *Bear* with each other and *forgive* one another *if* *any* of you *has* a ***grievance*** *against* *someone*. *Forgive* as the Lord *forgave* you. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 14 | - | And *over* all these ***virtues*** put on love, which ***binds*** them all *together* in ***perfect*** *unity*. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 3 | : | 15 | - | Let the peace of Christ *rule* in your hearts, since as *members* of one *body* you were called to peace. And be *thankful*. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 16 | - | Let the message of Christ *dwell* *among* you ***richly*** as you ***teach*** and ***admonish*** one another with all *wisdom* through *psalms*, hymns, and songs from the *Spirit*, ***singing*** to God with ***gratitude*** in your hearts. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 17 | - | And whatever you do, *whether* in *word* or ***deed***, do it all in the name of the Lord *Jesus*, *giving* thanks to God the *Father* through him. |

### Instructions for Christian Households

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Colossians | 3 | : | 18 | - | Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is ***fitting*** in the Lord. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 3 | : | 19 | - | Husbands, love your wives and do not be *harsh* with them. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 3 | : | 20 | - | Children, obey your parents in everything, for *this* *pleases* the Lord. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 3 | : | 21 | - | Fathers, do not ***embitter*** your children, or *they* will *become* *discouraged*. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 3 | : | 22 | - | Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not *only* when their eye is on you and to ***curry*** their *favor*, but with sincerity of heart and *reverence* for the Lord. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 23 | - | Whatever you do, *work* at it with all your heart, as *working* for the Lord, not for *human* masters, |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 24 | - | since you know that you will *receive* *an* *inheritance* from the Lord as a *reward*. It is the Lord Christ you *are* *serving*. |
|  | Colossians | 3 | : | 25 | - | Anyone who *does* *wrong* will be ***repaid*** for their ***wrongs***, and there is no favoritism. |

## Colossians 4

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Colossians | 4 | : | 1 | - | *Masters*, ***provide*** your *slaves* with *what* is *right* and ***fair***, *because* you know that you also have a *Master* in heaven. |

### Further Instructions

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| ¶ | Colossians | 4 | : | 2 | - | ***Devote*** *yourselves* to prayer, *being* ***watchful*** and *thankful*. |
|  | Colossians | 4 | : | 3 | - | And pray for *us*, *too*, that God may ***open*** a ***door*** for our *message*, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. |
|  | Colossians | 4 | : | 4 | - | Pray that I may proclaim it *clearly*, as I should. |
|  | Colossians | 4 | : | 5 | - | Be *wise* in the way you *act* *toward* ***outsiders***; *make* the most of every opportunity. |
|  | Colossians | 4 | : | 6 | - | Let your ***conversation*** be always *full* of grace, ***seasoned*** with ***salt***, so that you may know *how* to ***answer*** *everyone*. |

### Final Greetings

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ¶ | Colossians | 4 | : | 7 | - | *Tychicus* will tell you all the *news* about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful *minister* and fellow servant in the Lord. |
|  | Colossians | 4 | : | 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. |
|  | Colossians | 4 | : | 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*. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 4 | : | 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.) |
|  | Colossians | 4 | : | 11 | - | Jesus, who is *called* ***Justus***, also sends greetings. *These* are the *only* *Jews* *among* my *co-workers* for the kingdom of God, and they have *proved* a *comfort* to me. |
|  | Colossians | 4 | : | 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***. |
|  | Colossians | 4 | : | 13 | - | I ***vouch*** for him that he is *working* *hard* for you and for those at Laodicea and ***Hierapolis***. |
|  | Colossians | 4 | : | 14 | - | Our dear ***friend*** ***Luke***, the ***doctor***, and ***Demas*** *send* greetings. |
|  | Colossians | 4 | : | 15 | - | *Give* my greetings to the brothers and *sisters* at Laodicea, and to ***Nympha*** and the church in *her* ***house***. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 4 | : | 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. |
| ¶ | Colossians | 4 | : | 17 | - | Tell ***Archippus***: "See to it that you *complete* the ***ministry*** you have received in the Lord." |
| ¶ | Colossians | 4 | : | 18 | - | I, *Paul*, *write* this ***greeting*** in my own *hand*. *Remember* my chains. Grace be with you. |