

# Walk Through the Bible

(Part 3 - Week 48)

## Era #12 – The Church

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### Ephesians

#### Chapter 1

<sup>4</sup> For he **chose us** in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love Ephesians 1:4 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup> he predestined us to be **adopted** as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— Ephesians 1:5 (NIV)

<sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the **riches** of God's grace Ephesians 1:7 (NIV)

#### Chapter 2

<sup>5</sup> made us **alive with Christ** even when we were **dead in transgressions**--it is by grace you have been saved. Ephesians 2:5 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> For it is **by grace** you have **been saved**, through **faith**--and this not from yourselves, it is the **gift of God**--

<sup>9</sup> **not by works**, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

<sup>10</sup> For we are God's workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus to do good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

#### Chapter 3

<sup>4</sup> In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the **mystery of Christ**, Ephesians 3:4 (NIV)

<sup>6</sup> 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 3:6 (NIV)

<sup>20</sup> 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**,

<sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21 (NIV)

## Chapter 4

<sup>1</sup> As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life **worthy of the calling** you have received. Ephesians 4:1 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and **gave gifts to men.**"

<sup>11</sup> It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,

<sup>12</sup> to prepare God's people for works of service, **so that the body of Christ may be built up**  
Ephesians 4:8, 11-12 (NIV)

<sup>22</sup> 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;

<sup>23</sup> to be made new in the attitude of your minds;

<sup>24</sup> and to **put on the new self**, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.  
Ephesians 4:22-24 (NIV)

## Chapter 5

<sup>1</sup> Be **imitators** of God, therefore, as dearly loved children Ephesians 5:1 (NIV)

<sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, **be filled with the Spirit.**  
Ephesians 5:18 (NIV)

<sup>25</sup> **Husbands**, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her  
Ephesians 5:25 (NIV)

<sup>31</sup> "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 5:31 (NIV)

<sup>33</sup> However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the **wife** must respect her husband. Ephesians 5:33 (NIV)

## **Chapter 6**

<sup>1</sup> **Children**, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Ephesians 6:1 (NIV)

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

<sup>11</sup> **Put on the full armor of God** so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Ephesians 6:10-11 (NIV)

<sup>13</sup> 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 6:13 (NIV)

# Colossians

**THEME** – Christ is our supreme Lord and sufficient Savior.

**KEY VERSES** –

<sup>9</sup> *For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,*  
<sup>10</sup> *and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every  
power and authority.*

Colossians 2:9-10 (NIV)

**OVERVIEW**

The church at Colossae was under attack from false teachers who were denigrating the deity of Jesus; they were teaching that He was not actually God. Though Paul had never been to the church itself, he addressed these issues head-on. The nature of Jesus Christ as Creator and Redeemer was nonnegotiable, so Paul wrote to them that he might bring his wisdom to bear on this difficult and trying situation. It was critical to him that this church know God in His greatness and glory, rather than in the deficient view given them by the false teachers ([Colossians 1:25](#); [2:1–2](#)).

**Why is Colossians so important?**

In this book, the apostle Paul described Jesus with some of the loftiest language in all the New Testament, focusing on Christ's preeminence and sufficiency in all things. Paul presented Christ as the center of the universe, not only as the active Creator but also as the recipient of creation—in His taking on of human flesh. Christ was and is the visible image of the invisible God, containing within Himself the fullness of Deity ([Colossians 2:9](#)). Because of His divine nature, Jesus is sovereign, above all things with an authority given Him by the Father. As such, Jesus is also Head over the church. He has reconciled all things to Himself through His death on the cross, making believers alive to God and setting them on the path to right living. This proper view of Christ served as the antidote for the Colossian heresy as well as a building block for Christian life and doctrine both then and now.

# Philemon

**THEME** – Forgiving and accepting one another as brothers and sisters in Christ

**KEY VERSES** –

<sup>10</sup> *I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains.* <sup>11</sup> *Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me.*

Philemon 1:10-11 (NIV)

<sup>15</sup> *Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back for good--* <sup>16</sup> *no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a man and as a brother in the Lord.* <sup>17</sup> *So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me.* <sup>18</sup> *If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me.*

Philemon 1:15-18 (NIV)

## **OVERVIEW**

The letter to Philemon reminds us that God's revelation to humanity is intensely personal. In more formal biblical works such as the Gospels or the epistle to the Romans or even Paul's letters to churches at Philippi or Colossae, it might be easy to get the impression that God does not care or have time for the trials and tribulations in a single household. Philemon stands as one piece of strong evidence to the contrary, revealing that lofty doctrines such as the love of God, forgiveness in Christ, or the inherent dignity of humanity have real and pertinent impact in everyday life. The book of Philemon illustrates that principles like these can and should profoundly affect the lives of believers.

### **Why is Philemon so important?**

Paul's message to Philemon was a simple one: based on the work of love and forgiveness that had been wrought in Philemon's heart by God, show the same to the escaped and now-believing slave Onesimus. The apostle's message would have had extra force behind it because he knew Philemon personally. Paul had explained the gospel to Philemon and had witnessed the profound result: new life blossoming in a once-dead heart ([Philemon 1:19](#)). Paul knew that conversion is nothing to trifle with, but that it should be honored and fostered.

So Paul made a request. He wanted Philemon to forgive Onesimus, to accept the slave as a brother in Christ, and to consider sending Onesimus back to Paul, as the apostle found him useful in God's service (1:11–14). Paul did not minimize Onesimus's sin. This was not some kind of cheap grace that Paul asked Philemon to offer. No, there was sacrifice required in this request, and because of that, Paul approached the topic with gentleness and care (1:21). His letter to Philemon presents in full color the beautiful and majestic transition from slavery to kinship that comes as a result of Christian love and forgiveness.



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| A Theater            | E Lighthouse   |
| B Palace             | F Aqueduct     |
| C Temple of Augustus | G Amphitheater |
| D Harbor (Sebastos)  | H Hippodrome   |



