



Colossians 4

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J. Archippus

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Colossians 4:2-6

How we therefore continue:

In light of Colossians 3:18-4:1 and the previous chapters and verses in Colossians, because of these things that we should do and in order to be empowered by the Lord to do them we then therefore:

Continue earnestly in Prayer, which we are vigilant in and with thanksgiving in any response the Lord directs us to through prayer. Prayer is not about changing God's mind, and it's less about what we get and more about the goal of our central focus being changed to His focus. This process is a part of sanctification, it's a sanctification of our prayer life. He works in us what we ought to pray for, too often our prayers can become more of us speaking and less of us listening to the Lord's response to our hearts. This is where being vigilant in our prayers comes in, vigilance comes from stopping, watching, and listening then our response of thankfulness to His response no matter what it may be. The Lord already knows what we need and the direction He will go in, but we do not, so our prayers are admitting it's only Him who can do and work in these areas in our and others lives then we wait on His direction and leading.

And while we are praying for clarity of our situation and circumstances as well as within context of the passage of scripture, for God to work in our hearts how we are to view and love others without distinction, Paul ask that they pray also for himself and others to be vigilant and also thankful for whatever the season may be the Lord has brought them to.

Study Questions:

When we become a Christian what are the new value systems the Lord has called us to put on?

How does the Lord work in our hearts a spirit of not causing and building distinctions and classes for others to fit in based upon our views and the worlds?

How do we put on a new value system?

Are trials often times a season the Lord allows and wants us to go through?

Why does the Lord want us to go through difficult season of life?

What do we do in these difficult seasons?

While we are waiting for the Lord's direction in and out of difficult season, what can we be doing?

How should we be praying for others in their difficulties?

What does it mean to be vigilant?

Colossians 4:7-17

Examples for every believer and every fellowship of believers to walk by, and having no more distinctions between one another, Colossians 3:11. The various Believers who Paul referenced to the Colossians as examples are all Christians from various and different back grounds and walks of life. All of these individuals were of different nationality, different social classes, different economic back grounds, different employment and none of them except for a couple of them were from Colossae, and still they were from different distinct classes of how the world builds distinctions from individuals and social classes. And yet Paul uses their lives to show there are to be no distinctions, classes, or clicks within the Church. Paul uses each of these individuals present walks and serving alongside of the other as an example of this and how each are serving in various parts of the world. Paul goes further to instruct that they can learn and grow from each of these individuals no matter what the world may say or class them as.

Study Questions:

How should we view other Christians?

What should we seek to be as fellow Christians with one another?

What is the greatest ministry we can have by visiting other Christians and other fellowships?

What should be the only view of one another as Christians? Aristarchus in 4:10

How should we act towards one another, especially to those who may be visiting?

Should we hold onto how individuals may have first started of walking as Christians?

Should the church place a higher value on things individuals have completed by works?

Does a certain completion of tasks or objections automatically set someone up for a specific work or office in the Church?

Who is it that calls and ordains an individual to a specific office of ministry and service in the Church?

How should we walk out the calling to service the Lord has called each of us to?

Colossians 4:18

Paul wanted it understood and clear that whether his hand wrote this letter or most likely his final words here in this verse; that though he had never met the Colossians, though he was very different in most every aspect except for the fact that both he and them have Christ in common, this is what they need to stay focused and press on towards in relating with not only with the previous list in verses 7-17, but also how they relate to one another. Not as Jew or Greek, learned or unlearned, rich or poor, slave or free, but it's Jesus and Jesus alone how they relate to one another.

Study Questions:

What did Paul want the Colossians to remember of him?

Why did Paul want the Colossians to remember him in his imprisonment?