

Galatians- Colossians

The Book Of Romans

- Romans is Paul's greatest work and sets the theological theme for the rest of his writings
- In Romans Paul lays out the cause of man's separation from God, i.e. sin.
- No man is righteous before God, "Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin" (3:9).
- Righteousness which comes from God is through faith in Jesus and is the only means of justification (3:21-31).

Romans 3:19-26

" Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. **Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.** But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, **being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,** even the **righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.** For there is no difference; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that **He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.**"

Defining Some Terms

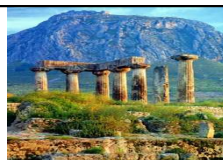
- **Justification**: Acquitted, the acceptance of man by God through the work of Jesus on the cross
- **Righteousness**: The position of man into right standing through the work of Jesus on the Cross
- **Faith**: **A gift from God** by which man accepts the free gift of grace through Jesus
- **Grace**: The unmerited favor and love of God toward man in Jesus
- **Propitiation**: The diverting of God's wrath **away** from man by sacrifice and **bridging the gap** between God and man

1st And 2nd Corinthians

- Written around 56 A.D. while Paul stayed in Ephesus
- Paul had founded the Corinthian church on his second missionary journey (Acts 15:36-18-22)
- Both letters were written to: "To the church of God which is at Corinth..."
- Paul had written both letters to address problems and division within the church of God
- It was in Corinth that Paul did most of his writing while working as a tentmaker



Corinth with a population of 400,000 and being a prominent center of commerce in the Mediterranean world it was a place for all sorts of immorality



The Temple to the Greek god Apollo



Corinth is a Mediterranean Paradise



Paul may preached in sites like this in Athens and Corinth

The Preaching Of The Gospel

- "For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."- 1 Cor 1:17-19
- "For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified."- 1 Cor 2:2

The Theme of Corinthians

- "Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."
- When ever people get side tracked away from the truth of the gospel message the result usually leads egocentrism

Love Conquers All

- "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."-- 1 Cor 13:4-7
- Compare to Psalm 103

CREDIBILITY GAP

WE ARE LIVING LETTERS!

2 Cor 3:2-3

"You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; 3 clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart."

**THE GREATNESS OF THE
GOSPEL OF JESUS AND HIS
GLORY IS REFLECTED IN
AND THROUGH THE
BELIEVER DESPITE OUR
FEARS, WEAKNESSES,
IMPERFECTIONS,
STRUGGLES, AND
HANGUPS!**

2 Cor 4:7-11

"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh."

Paul Defines Gospel

- "For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures." -1 Cor 15:3-4
- "Then He [Jesus] said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. -- Luke 24:25-27

Galatians

- Written around 50-52 A.D. during Paul's second missionary journey
- It was written from Corinth while stayed there
- It was addressed to: "To the churches of Galatia"- Gal 1:2
- Paul defines himself as, "an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised Him from the dead)"
- Paul was referring to his calling on the road to Damascus

The Region Of Galatia

- **Galatia** was an area in the highlands of central Anatolia in modern Turkey
- It was settled by the Gauls originally from north of the Black Sea, who were Celtic



Themes of Galatians

- **Faith vs. Works**: Justified by faith not works
- **Grace vs. Law**: Christ died in vain if we could keep the Law
- **Spirit vs. Flesh**: There is a war in the soul of the believer
- **Truth vs. Error**: Bondage results from false doctrine
- Key Verse: "But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed."-- Gal 1:8-9

Ephesians

- It was written around 60-61 A.D.
- It was written in Rome while Paul was imprisoned there
- It was written to: "To the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus"- Eph 1:1
- Ephesians is considered to be the letter that defines the doctrine of the church (ecclesiology)

Theme: Unity Within The Body

- "I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all **lowliness and gentleness**, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is **one body** and **one Spirit**, just as you were called in **one hope** of your calling; **one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all**, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.-- Eph 4:1-6

The City Of Ephesus



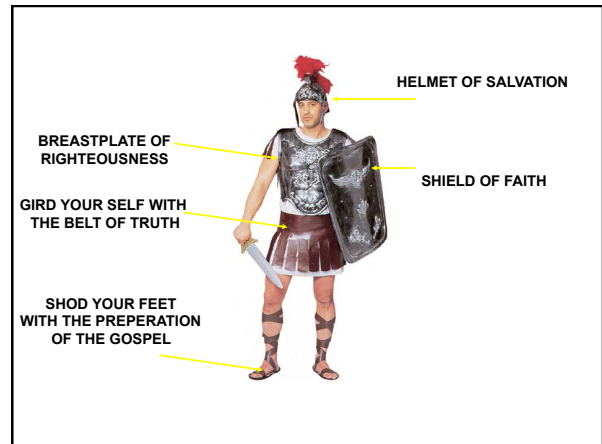
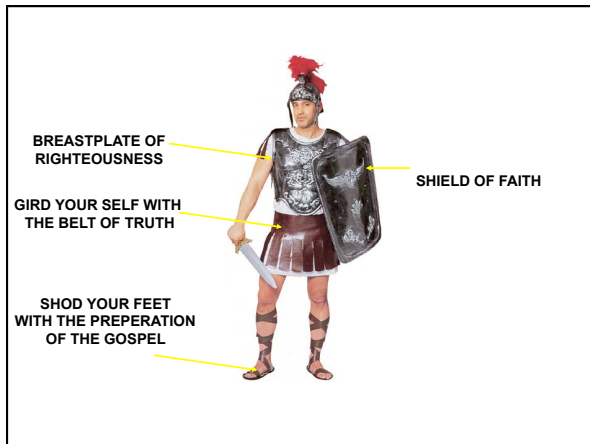
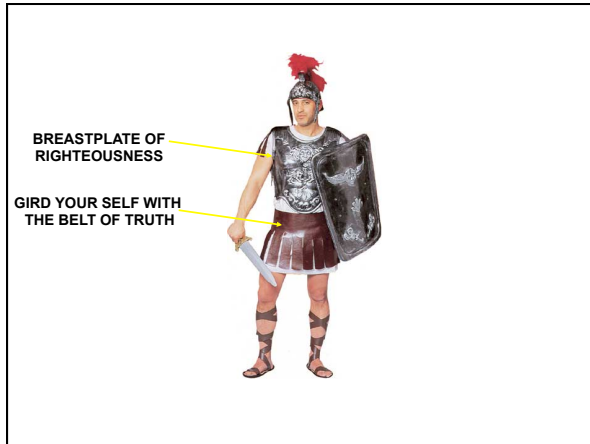
- **Ephesus**, was an ancient Greek city, and later a major Roman city, on the west coast of Asia Minor, near present-day Seluk, Izmir Turkey. In the Roman period, Ephesus had a population of more than 250,000 in the 1st century BC, which also made it one of the largest cities in the Mediterranean world.
- The city was famed for the Temple of Artemis (completed around 550 BC), one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

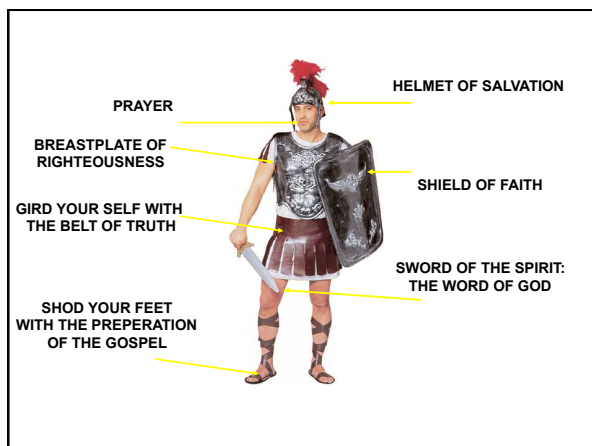
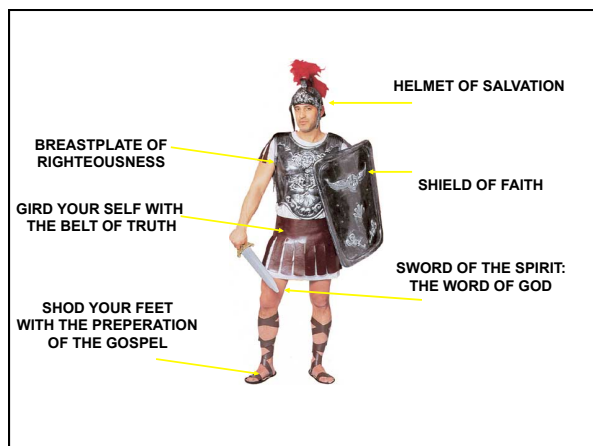
Eph 6:11-12

Put on the whole armor of God,
that you may be able to stand
against the wiles of the devil.
NKJV

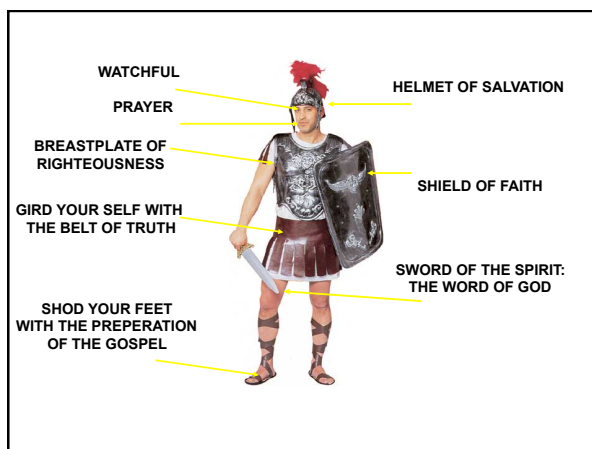
GIRD YOURSELF WITH
THE BELT OF TRUTH







OUR PRAYER LIFE IMPACTS OUR SOUL BY NOURISHING OUR LIFE IN JESUS. ONE WAY PRAYER NOURISHES OUR SOUL IS BY REFUSING TO WORRY OVER ANYTHING, FOR WORRY MEANS THERE IS SOMETHING OVER WHICH WE CANNOT HAVE OUR OWN WAY, AND IS IN REALITY PERSONAL IRRITATION WITH GOD. IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS. NEVER LET ANYTHING PUSH YOU TO YOUR WITS END, BECAUSE YOU WILL GET WORRIED, AND WORRY MAKES YOU SELF-INTRESTED AND DISTURBS THE NOURISHMENT OF OUR LIFE IN GOD. PRAY AND GIVE THANKS TO GOD THAT HE IS THERE, NO MATTER WHAT IS HAPPENING.---OSWALD CHAMBERS, IF YE SHALL ASK...



Philippians

- Philippians was written around 62 A.D.
- It was written from Rome while Paul was imprisoned there.
- It was written to: "To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons"-- Phil 1:1
- It is written to encourage those in Christ to live in unity, joy, and contentment in Jesus
- A very positive letter from Paul

The City Of Philippi

- Philip II of Macedon, the Father of Alexander the Great, annexed the whole region in 356 BC and formally established Philippi as a city bearing his own name. It was fortified with an extensive city wall, part of which still survives. A garrison stationed there made it a military strong point to guard gold from the nearby mines, which enriched Philip. It is located in Greece



Promises in Philippians

- **Phil 1:5-6**--"being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ"
- **Phil 1:21**-- "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain"
- **Phil 2:13**-- "for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."

- **Phil 3:12-14**--"Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."
- **Phil 4:4**-- "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!"

- **Phil 4:6-7**--"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."
- **Phil 4:8**--"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy — meditate on these things"
- **Phil 4:11**--"Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content..."

Themes By Chapter In Philippians

- **Chapter 1: Focus on Jesus**; Paul uses in the first chapter alone the name of Jesus Christ or Lord 18 times in 30 verses.
- **Chapter 2: The mind of Jesus**; (Php. 2:5) "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.."
- **Chapter 3: Passion for knowing Jesus** (Php. 3:12-14)
- **Chapter 4: The joy in knowing Jesus** (Php. 4:4)

Key Verse:

"FOR TO ME TO LIVE IS
CHRIST, AND
TO DIE IS GAIN"--PHP 1:21

- THE GAINING OF CHRIST IS THE RELATIONSHIP OF LOVE AND ADORATION, **NOT THE PERFECTION OF BEHAVIORS**; THE JOURNEY BECOMES **JOYFUL WHEN WE RECOGNIZE** THE WINNING OF CHRIST IS IN THE RELATIONSHIP OF KNOWING HIM, NOT LIFE CIRCUMSTANCES OR BEHAVIORS (Php. 3:7-16)

Colossians

- Colossians was written around 60-61 A.D.
- It was written from Rome while Paul was imprisoned there.
- It was written to: "To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colosse"-Col 1:2
- It was written to combat false doctrines
- Ephesians was Paul's letter about the body of Christ; Colossians is Paul's letter concerning Jesus as the head of the church

The City Of Colosse

- **Colossae** or **Colosse** was an ancient city of Phrygia, on the Lycus, which is a tributary of the Maeander River. It was situated about 12 miles South East of Laodicea, and near the great road from Ephesus to the Euphrates. The site, located near the modern town of Honaz in Turkey, has never been excavated.



The Controversy

- The Gnostics had become active in the Colossian Church confusing the believers there.
- They taught a doctrine of mixing angel worship with Jewish mysticism, asceticism, and Greek mythology.
- The Gnostics which comes from the Greek word *gnosis*, meaning knowledge denied the incarnation of Jesus as the visible form of the invisible God

The Main Themes

- Christ is the visible form of the invisible God
- Jesus was prior to the creation of the universe
- Through Him the universe was created
- In Him everything in the universe is held together
- He is the head of the body, the church of God
- He is the firstborn from among the dead
- He's above the angels

Colossians 1:15-19

"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell..."

Reconciled in Christ

"...and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight — if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Breach Birth Christianity

- Some believers have been turned around to believe that it is their responsibility verses their response to the work of Jesus on the cross
- "So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.

Proper Mind-Set

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.-- Col 3:1-4