



COPTIC ORTHODOX PATRIARCHATE  
Diocese of Mississauga, Vancouver and Western Canada

CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY & ST. ATHANASIUS  
MISSISSAUGA - CANADA

# BIBLE TREASURES

## FACTS & FUN





**His Holiness, Pope Tawadros II**  
**Pope of Alexandria & Patriarch of the See of St. Mark**



**His Grace, Bishop Mina  
Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate  
Diocese of Mississauga, Vancouver and Western Canada**

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## Introduction

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit one God. Amen

The Bible is the most important book ever written.

It is an eyewitness account of historical events that shaped the world in which we live.

Without the Bible the world would be completely different.

It is so important to read and understand the Bible.

I thank God for the group of servants in the church of Virgin Mary and St. Athanasius in Mississauga, Ontario, who have worked tirelessly to make this booklet.

This is an excellent tool to make studying the Bible more interesting, enjoyable and easy for children.

Also, this series is so precious because it covers all the 66 books of the Bible and it promises to be both enjoyable and beneficial for children and adults alike.

I encourage each family to obtain these series of books and sit with their children to study the Bible every day.

May God bless all the families and church servants through the intercession of St. Mary and St. Athanasius and the prayers of HH Pope Tawadros the second.

May God bless you.

Bishop Mina  
Bishop of Mississauga, Vancouver and Western Canada

# THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS

## WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the Book of Acts
- Followed by the First Epistle to the Corinthians

## AUTHOR

St. Paul the Apostle wrote it from Corinth during his 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary trip, while he was staying in a house of a man named Gaius.

## ABOUT ST. PAUL

A young man named Saul of Tarsus was determined to eliminate Christianity from the face of the earth.

He was a Jew from the tribe of Benjamin, a Pharisee, and a man of knowledge. He studied at the feet of Gamaliel.

Then Jesus directly intervened.

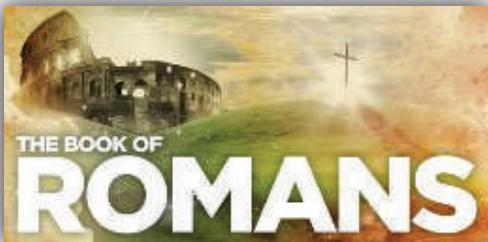
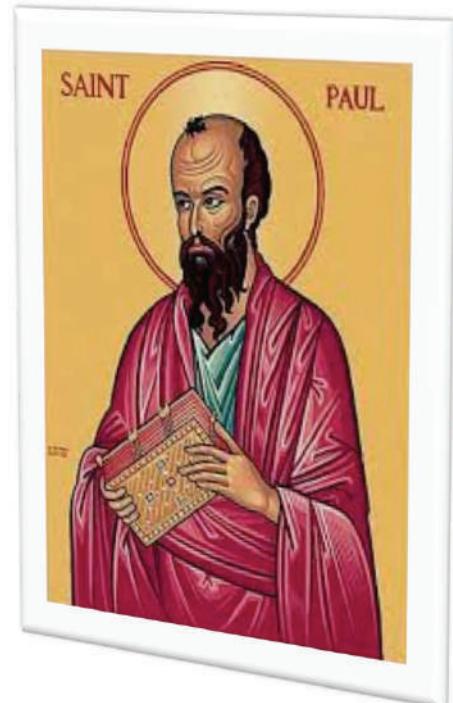
Jesus appeared to Saul on the road to Damascus, an encounter that completely transformed him. He became the beloved apostle St. Paul.

Out of the 27 books in the New Testament, St. Paul wrote 14.

Out of all the biblical human authors, St. Paul has written the most books of the Bible.

St. Paul was chosen for a few specific tasks:

- Preach Christ to the Gentiles
- Convey God's plan for managing the church



This letter was dictated by St. Paul to Tertius and carried to Rome by the deaconess Phoebe, a servant of the church in Cenchrea.

## THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS – CONT.

### ROME AT THE TIME OF ST. PAUL

Rome was a meeting place for world politicians and leaders, a center for science, literature and philosophy, and was famous for Roman law. As an open country, Rome was filled with pagan abominations coming from all over the world.



The city had a large number of Jews. These Jews were in peace and comfort most of their time in Rome, except during the reign of Tiberius and during the reign of Claudius Caesar who commanded the expulsion of them all from Rome. This was mostly due to the riots of the Jews against the Christians, so Tiberius expelled the Jews and the Christians.



### THE ORIGIN OF CHRISTIANITY IN ROME

A – On the day of Pentecost there were pious Jews from every nation, among whom were “Roman settlers, Jews and outsiders”. They accepted the faith in the Lord Christ and returned from Jerusalem to Rome to preach among their Jewish brothers.

B – Rome was a meeting place for senior leaders and merchants. Like people who heard the teachings of St. Paul in some cities of Achaia, Macedonia and the cities of Asia Minor, and believed in these teachings.

C - Many of the Jews were expelled from Rome and then returned, some of them had believed in the Lord Christ, for example, Aquila and Priscilla who met with St. Paul in Corinth and believed. These two and others participated in establishing the church there, so they had a church in their home.

D- It is clear from the letter that none of the apostles had established this church until this letter was written, as the principle of St. Paul was: “I was careful to preach this way, not where Christ was named, lest I build on the basis of another.”

E- St. Paul did indeed go to Rome, but as a prisoner, and he preached there through his imprisonment first, and he found Christians there.

# THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS – CONT.

# KEYS

## KEY WORD

The Righteousness of God

## KEY CHAPTER

### Chapters 6-8

The answer to the questions of how to be delivered from sin? How to live a balanced life under grace? How to live a victorious Christian life through the power of the Holy Spirit?



## KEY VERSES

*"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’" Romans 1:16-17*



*"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; 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."*  
*Romans 3:21-25*

## OUTLINE

- 1- Chapter 1:1-15 Introduction
- 2- Chapter 1:16-17 Theme: Righteousness from God
- 3- Chapters 1:18 – 3:20 The Unrighteousness of All People
- 4- Chapters 3:21 – 5:21 Righteousness Imputed: Justification
- 5- Chapters 6-8 Righteousness Imparted: Sanctification
- 6- Chapters 9-11 God's Righteousness Vindicated: The Justice of His Way with Israel
- 7- Chapters 12 – 15:13 Righteousness Practiced
- 8- Chapters 15: 14-33 Conclusion
- 9- Chapter 16 Commendation, Greetings and Benediction

God offers the gift of His righteousness to everyone who comes to Christ by faith. Jews and Gentiles alike.



# THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS – CONT.

## SUMMARY

St. Paul begins with a discussion of the state of humanity before the salvation through faith in Jesus. He tells how Gentiles worshipped idols, disdaining devotion to God, and how Jews failed to follow the Law properly. Both are in need of Salvation. St. Paul says that God's promise to the Jews, symbolized by circumcision, does not bring automatic salvation: "*but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter.*" Romans 2:29 St. Paul concludes, "*For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.*" Romans 3:9.



St. Paul teaches that salvation from sin is only possible through faith. He cites the example of the patriarch Abraham, who received God's blessing and passed it on to his descendants through "***the righteousness of faith***" Romans 4:13

The free gift of grace, unearned and undeserved, is a product of God's love manifested toward the unworthy. Whereas Adam's fall brought sin and death into the world, Jesus' sacrifice brought grace and life.

**The importance of baptism**, St. Paul explains that baptism initiates a new life of grace and purity: the sinner symbolically dies, baptized into the death of Jesus, and the person who emerges is "*dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus*" (Romans 6:11). Christians, then, must be governed by holiness, not by sin: holiness alone will lead to eternal life. Jewish Law ceases to be binding: the Law arouses sinful passions, and as beings dead to sin, Christians become dead to the Law. St. Paul urges the Romans to live not "according to the flesh" but rather by the Spirit (Romans 8:4). Through the Spirit, all believers become spiritual children of God, called by God to glory. This is a source of strength for the Christian: "*If God is for us, who can be against us?*" (Romans 8:31).



[We all] fall short of the Glory of God.

ROMANS 3:23

## THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS – CONT.

# SUMMARY

St. Paul's next topic is the problem of reconciling the doctrine of salvation through faith in Christ with the Old Testament promise of the salvation of the Jewish people.

This section begins with a lamentation, as St. Paul, who was himself born a Jew, expresses his wish to help the Israelites, the supposed firstborn children of God. But he goes on to explain that the Christian covenant of grace is by no means a betrayal of Abraham's covenant with God. Those who have faith in Jesus, who believe "with the heart," are "children of the promise," the spiritual children of Israel (Romans 10:10, 9:8).

The Jews stumbled when they mistook Jewish law for the means to salvation.

*For, "Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

*Romans 10:13*

But the Jews have not been entirely cast aside.

St. Paul teaches that eventually the Jews will come to express faith in Jesus, enabling God to keep His original promise to them.

He finishes with exposition of Christian doctrine, St. Paul advises the Romans, on the proper means of living a Christian life. Harmony, humility, and love are his main concerns. He urges charity, patience, and submission.

St. Paul mandates tolerance and freedom of religious conscience within the church. The strong in faith are not to judge and reject the weak in faith—that is, those who have given up Jewish Law are to accept the observances of those who continue to practice Jewish Law. St. Paul finishes this section with a set of Old Testament quotations about the worship of God spreading among all nations.

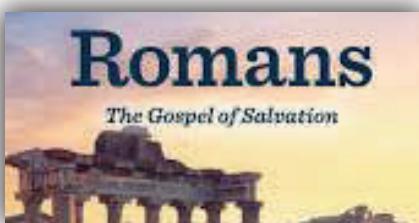


St. Paul concludes his letter with a section in which he discusses his own ministry, proving his authority through a discussion of his credentials: "*I have reason to glory in Christ Jesus in the things which pertain to God*" (Romans 15:17).

He informs the Romans that he is preparing to bring the contributions of the Greek and Macedonian churches to Jerusalem, where he speculates that he might run into difficulties.

Chapter 16 contains a long list of greetings. St. Paul sends the greetings to the Roman Christians, warning the Romans to be wary of "*those who cause divisions and offenses*" (Romans 16:17).

## THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS – CONT.



### SPECIAL NOTES

The use of letter as a medium of divine revelation was unheard of until the time of St. Paul and his contemporaries. Through them St. Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, was able to address specific problems and issues of his time with perspectives that are universal and timeless.

St. Paul's letters fall into two groups: letters to churches and letters to individuals.

(10 to churches and 4 to individuals)

*Part of the Pauline Epistles is read in the Divine Liturgy.*

The Letter to the Romans is the longest of the Pauline Epistles.



St. Paul's purposes for writing this letter were varied:

- He wrote to prepare the way for his coming visit to Rome and his proposed mission to Spain.
- He wrote to present the basic system of salvation to a church that had not received the teaching of an apostle before.
- He sought to explain the relationship between Jew and Gentile in God's overall plan of redemption. The Jewish Christians were being rejected by the larger Gentile group in the church because the Jewish believers still felt constrained to observe dietary laws and sacred days.
- To explain that salvation is offered through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

St. Paul begins by surveying the spiritual condition of all people. He finds Jews and Gentiles alike to be sinners and in need of salvation. That salvation has been provided by God through Jesus Christ and His redemptive work on the cross.

None of St. Paul's other letters states so profoundly the content of the gospel and its implications for both the present and the future.

*St. Paul has not gone to Rome before writing this letter.*



## QUESTIONS EPISTLES TO THE ROMANS

- 1- St. Paul wrote the epistle to the Romans from \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Ephesus
  - b. Jerusalem
  - c. Corinth
  
- 2- St. Paul wrote the epistle to the Romans during his 1<sup>st</sup> missionary trip.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 3- All is true about St. Paul EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. He was a Jew from the tribe of Benjamin
  - b. He was a Pharisee
  - c. He studied at the feet of Gamaliel
  - d. Jesus appeared to him on the road to Jerusalem
  
- 4- How many epistles in the New Testament did St. Paul write?
  - a. 14
  - b. 12
  - c. 13
  
- 5- Part of the Pauline epistles is read in the Divine Liturgy.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 6- Who carried the epistle to the Romans to Rome?
  - a. Timothy
  - b. Tertius
  - c. Phoebe
  
- 7- At the time of St. Paul, Rome \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Had a large number of Jews
  - b. Was a meeting place for world politicians
  - c. Was filled with pagan abominations
  - d. b and c
  - e. All of the above
  
- 8- On the day of Pentecost some Jewish outsiders accepted the faith and returned from Jerusalem to Rome to preach among their Jewish brothers.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 9- Aquila and Priscilla met with St. Paul in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Rome
  - b. Macedonia
  - c. Corinth
  
- 10- The key word in the epistle to the Romans is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. The righteousness of God
  - b. Rejoice in the Lord
  - c. None of the above

11- Fill in the blanks: "For I am not ashamed of \_\_\_\_\_, for it is the power of God to \_\_\_\_\_ who believes, for the Jew first and also for the \_\_\_\_\_. Romans 1:16

- a. The cross of Jesus, save everyone, Gentiles
- b. The word of God, salvation for all, nations
- c. The gospel of Christ, salvation for everyone, Greek

12- St. Paul begins the epistle to the Romans by explaining that \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Only Gentiles are in need of salvation
- b. Jews followed the law properly
- c. Both Jewish and Gentiles are in need of salvation

13- St. Paul gives the example of \_\_\_\_\_ who was counted righteous through faith.

- a. Abraham
- b. David
- c. Adam

14- St. Paul explains that Adam's fall brought death into the world, Jesus' sacrifice brought grace and life to the world.

- a. True
- b. False

15- Fill in the blank: "If God is with us who can \_\_\_\_\_? Romans 8:31

- a. Hurt us
- b. Overcome us
- c. Be against us

16- Through baptism sinner symbolically dies into the death of Jesus.

- a. True
- b. False

17- In the epistle to the Romans St. Paul explains that the Jews \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Stumbled when they mistook Jewish law for the means to salvation
- b. Will eventually believe in Jesus enabling God to keep His original promise to them
- c. a and b

18- St. Paul wrote the epistle to the Romans to \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Prepare the way for his coming visit
- b. Present the basic system of salvation
- c. Explain the relationship between Jews and Gentiles in God's plan
- d. All of the above

19- Why did the Gentiles reject the Jewish Christians?

- a. Because they did not believe St. Paul
- b. Because they were observing dietary laws and sacred days
- c. Because they refused to donate to the needy churches

20- Fill in the blanks: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_ that is in Christ Jesus" Romans 3:23-24

- a. Justified freely, His grace, the redemption
- b. Saved, His cross, the sacrifice
- c. Forgiven, His grace, the salvation

# THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

## WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the Epistle to the Romans
- Followed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle to the Corinthians

## AUTHOR

St. Paul the Apostle wrote it from Ephesus toward the end of his 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey.



## CORINTH

- Corinth was a very important city in Greece, west of Athens.
- Because of its location, it became an important transit point for trade between Europe and Asia.
- It controlled the two major harbors that became an important center of commerce and was called “Wealthy”
- Corinthians worshiped Aphrodite the Greek goddess of love with its temple atop of the mountain overlooking Corinth.
- It was also known for its corruption and sexual immorality.
- By the time St. Paul arrived, Corinth had the largest population in Greece with Greeks, Jews and Romans.
- St. Paul preached in Corinth around the year 53 AD, where he spent 18 months, which was the longest period he spent in a city for service after Ephesus. Then he visited it twice after that.
- St. Paul began his service in the Jewish community. He was staying with Aquila and Priscilla, working with them in tents making.
- Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, and his household were converted to Christianity.
- The Jews strongly opposed St. Paul, so he said to them: “Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean. From now on I will go to the Gentiles” (Acts 18: 4-6)

*Corinth is also mentioned  
in the Book of Acts*



# THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS – CONT.

## KEYS

### KEY WORD

Correction of Carnal Living

*Instruction to the church at Corinth*

### KEY CHAPTER

#### Chapter 13

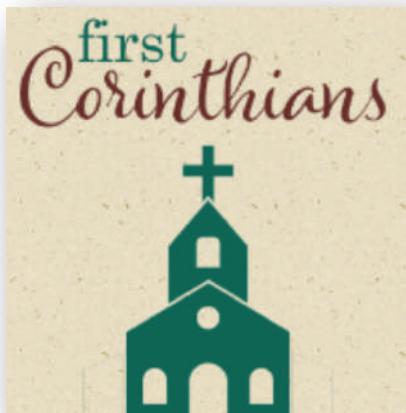
The Best Definition of Love

### KEY VERSES

“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.” 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20

 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

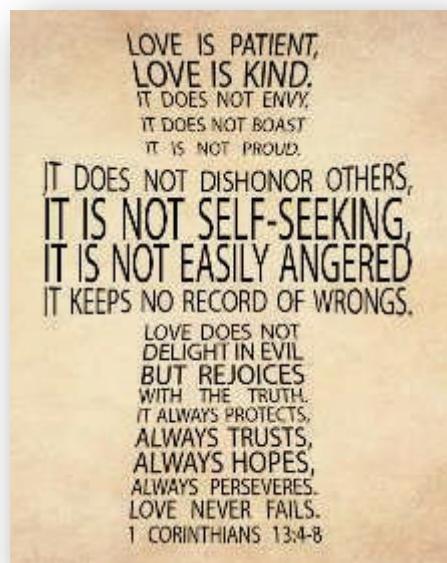
*1 Corinthians 3:11*



### THEME

The cross of Christ is a message that is designed to transform the lives of believers and make them different as people and as corporate body from the surrounding world. However the Corinthians are destroying their Christian testimony because of immorality and disunity.

“Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.” 1 Corinthians 10:12,13



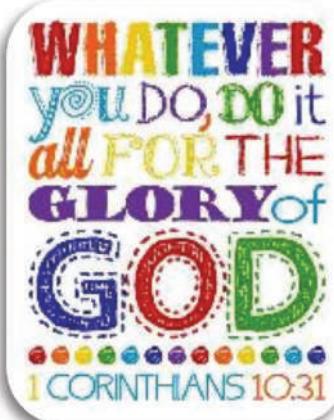
# THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS – CONT.



## OUTLINE

### Part One: Report of Divisions (1:1-4:21)

- 1- Introduction
  - Greeting of grace - Prayer of Thanksgiving
- 2- Report of Divisions
- 3- Reasons for Divisions
  - Misunderstanding of the message
  - Misunderstanding of the messenger
  - Misunderstanding of St. Paul's ministry



### Part Two: Reports of Fornication (5:1-6:20)

- 1- On Incest
  - Deliver the fornications for discipline
  - Separate yourselves
- 2- Concerning Litigation Between Believers
- 3- Warning Against Sexual Immortality

### Part Three: The Letter of Questions (7:1- 16:24)

- 1- Concerning Marriage
- 2- Concerning Things Offered to Idols
  - Liberty and weaker brother
  - Illustration of St. Paul and his liberty
  - Warning against forfeiting liberty
  - Exhortation to glorify God
- 3- Concerning Public Worship
  - Principles of public worship
  - Disorders at the Lord's Supper
  - Exercising spiritual gifts
- 4- Concerning the Resurrection
  - Facts of Christ's resurrection
  - Importance of Christ's resurrection
  - Order of the resurrection
  - Moral implications
  - Bodies of the resurrected dead
  - Bodies of the translated living
- 5- Concerning the Collection for Jerusalem
- 6- Conclusion



## THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS – CONT.

# SUMMARY

The reason for writing the first letter to Corinthians was the sad news that reached St. Paul about the discord in the Corinthian Church and the parties that strongly resist each other.



After St. Paul left Corinth, Apollos visited it, he was an Alexandrian Jew. He preached in it and his ministry was successful. But some misused his name and controversies arose in the Church.

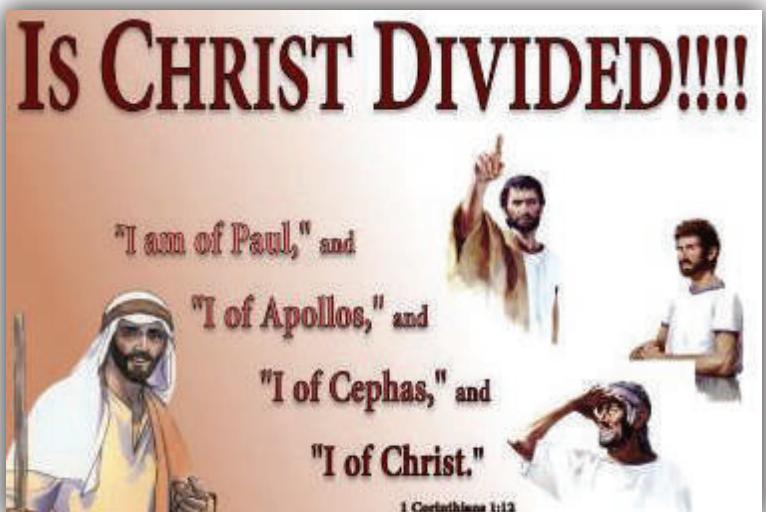
Some claimed that they were followers of St. Paul and the second group claimed they were followers of Apollos and a third group considered themselves the followers of St. Peter, and the fourth considered themselves followers of Christ.

St. Paul rebuked them for their bias and their moral corruption.

He opens his letter addressing the divisions within the church by appealing to the unity of being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the wisdom of God and He is the foundation of the church and to avoid worldly wisdom.

The Church suffered not only from disputes but was under great pressure due to the corruption of the city, from idolatry, witchcraft, association with evil spirits, and sexual immorality.

*Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us.*

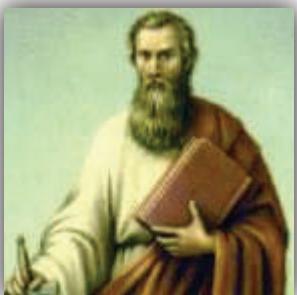


Immorality within the church is similar to yeast that permeates dough. St. Paul confronts this issue by reminding the Corinthians the purpose of Jesus Christ's sacrifice as the Paschal Lamb and its implications to the believer and church. Providing a tangible meaning to salvation and sanctification; get rid of the sins among you that you have left behind in your old life!

## THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS – CONT.

*Against the cultural background of Corinth, Paul exhorts the church to "Be imitators of me, just as I am of Christ".*

## SUMMARY



As new members of Christ, Gentiles convert in Corinth brought with them their pagan and cultural influences such as glorifying wisdom and ecstatic words, eating meat offered to idols, sexual immorality and the denial of bodily resurrection.

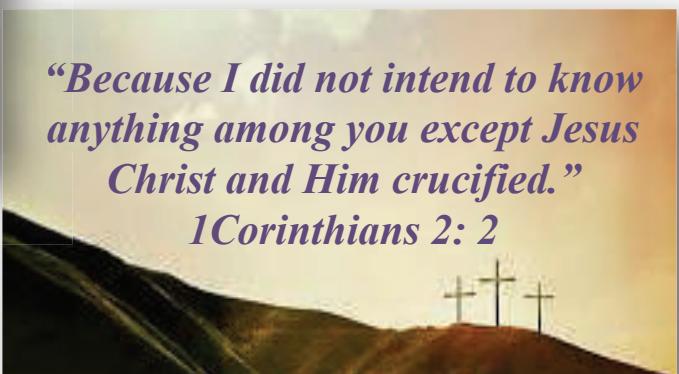
St. Paul's approach to the problems of Corinth is by grounding and centering his arguments on Jesus Christ.

- Consuming food offered to idols is associated with idolatry.
- Paul asserts the sanctity of the Lord's Supper, its symbolism with the body of Jesus Christ and implications when that sanctity is not recognized.
- The dispute about the resurrection is confronted with the fact of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Some misunderstood the gift of speaking in tongues, causing confusion in the church. This what prompted St. Paul to write the letter to declare that “God is not the author of confusion but of peace” 14:33 “Let all things be done decently and in order” 14:40



*“Because I did not intend to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.”*  
*1Corinthians 2: 2*



## THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS – CONT.

# SACRAMENTS

### Baptism

“And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”

1Corinthians 6:11



### The Eucharist

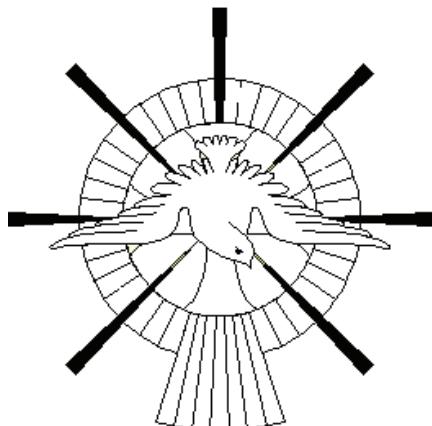


“For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” 1Corinthians 11: 23-25

### Confirmation (Myron)

“Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”

1Corinthians 2:12-13



### Priesthood

“Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God” 1 Corinthians 4:1

## QUESTIONS 1<sup>ST</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

- 1- In the bible the 1<sup>st</sup> epistle to the Corinthians is preceded by \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. The epistle to the Romans
  - b. The book of Acts
  - c. The epistle to the Galatians
  
- 2- St. Paul wrote the 1<sup>st</sup> epistle to the Corinthians from \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Rome
  - b. Corinth
  - c. Ephesus
  
- 3- St. Paul wrote the 1<sup>st</sup> epistle to the Corinthians during his 1<sup>st</sup> missionary trip.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 4- Because of its location, Corinth was an important point for trade between Europe and Asia.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 5- All is true about Corinth EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Corinthians worshiped Aphrodite the Greek goddess of love
  - b. Corinth was known for its corruption and sexual immorality
  - c. Corinth had a large population of Greek, Jews and Romans
  - d. St. Paul visited Corinth only once
  
- 6- St. Paul was staying with Aquila and Priscilla working as \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Fishermen
  - b. A tent maker
  - c. A seller of goods
  
- 7- Which chapter in 1 Corinthians has the best definition of love?
  
- 8- Fill in the blanks: “Or do you not know that \_\_\_\_\_ the temple of \_\_\_\_\_ who is in you, whom you have from \_\_\_\_\_, and you are not your own?
  - a. Your heart is, God, the blood of Jesus
  - b. Your body is, the Holy Spirit, God
  - c. You are, God, Jesus
  
- 9- Fill in the blanks: “God is \_\_\_\_\_, who will not allow you to be \_\_\_\_\_ beyond what you are able, but with temptation will also make \_\_\_\_\_, that you may be able to bear it”
  - a. Merciful, tested, the way of hope
  - b. Just, trialed, salvation
  - c. Faithful, tempted, the way of escape
  
- 10- What is the reason of divisions in the church of Corinth, according to 1Corinthians?
  - a. Misunderstanding of the message
  - b. Misunderstanding of the messenger
  - c. Misunderstanding of St. Paul’s ministry
  - d. All of the above

11- The following issues were raised in the epistle of 1 Corinthians \_\_\_\_\_

- a. The things offered to the idols
- b. The public worship
- c. The resurrection of the dead
- d. a and b
- e. All of the above

12- St. Paul wrote the epistle of 1 Corinthians \_\_\_\_\_

- a. To thank the Corinthians for their donations
- b. To address the division in the Corinthian Church
- c. To ask them to accept Apollos in their church

13- Fill in the blank: “Because I did not intend to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and \_\_\_\_\_” 1Corinthians 2:2

- a. Him crucified
- b. His Resurrection
- c. His suffering

14- The Gentiles convert in Corinth brought with them their pagan and cultural influences.

- a. True
- b. False

15- The Gentiles convert in Corinth believed in the resurrection of the dead.

- a. True
- b. False

16- “But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.” 1Corinthians 6:11- This verse is a reference to the sacrament of \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Baptism
- b. Repentance and confession
- c. None of the above

17- In 1Corinthians St. Paul confirms the sanctity of the Sacrament of Eucharist.

- a. True
- b. False

18- “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God”

1Corinthians 2:12 - This verse is a reference to the sacrament of \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Communion
- b. Confession
- c. Confirmation

19- Fill in the blank: “Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and \_\_\_\_\_ of God”

- a. Ministers of the service
- b. Stewards of the mysteries
- c. Helpers of the children

20- Fill in the blank: “Christ our \_\_\_\_\_ was sacrificed for us”

- a. Passover
- b. Savior
- c. God

# THE 2<sup>nd</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

## WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle to the Corinthians
- Followed by the Epistle to the Galatians

## AUTHOR

St. Paul the Apostle

The second letter to the Corinthians was written in 57 AD from Macedonia a few months after the first letter was written. The reason for writing it is that some members of the Corinthian Church denied St. Paul apostolic authority, so it was necessary for him to defend his apostleship.



In Macedonia St. Paul met Titus and received news about the Corinthian church's repentance.



**“Behold, now is the accepted time;  
behold, now is the day of salvation.”**  
**2 Corinthians 6:2**

This epistle shows the individuality of the apostle more than any other. "Human weakness, spiritual strength, the deepest tenderness of affection, wounded feeling, strictness, irony, rebuke, impassioned self-vindication, humility, zeal for the welfare of the weak and suffering, as well as for the progress of the church of Christ and for the spiritual advancement of its members."

St. Paul writes 2 Corinthians, indicating his desire to visit the Corinthian church a third time

## THE 2<sup>nd</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS – CONT.

### KEYS

#### KEY WORD

St. Paul's Defense of his Ministry



#### KEY CHAPTERS

##### Chapters 8 and 9

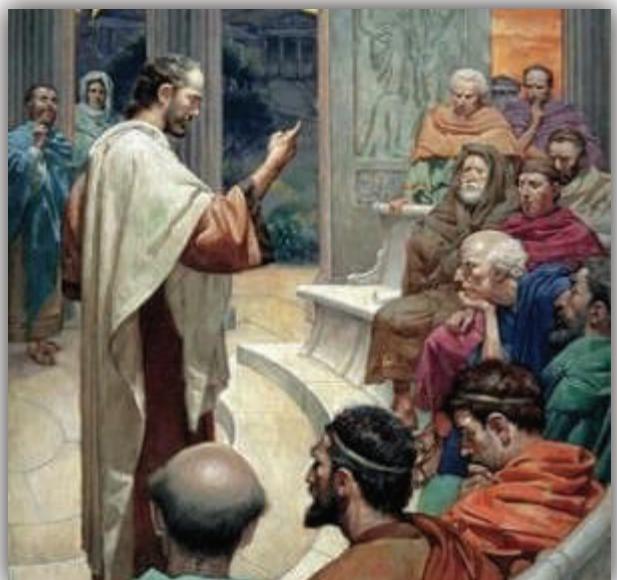
*These chapters are one unit and comprise the most complete revelation for God's plan for giving*

#### KEY VERSES

"For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." 2 Corinthians 4:5, 6

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation."

2 Corinthians 5:17-19



#### THEME

St. Paul defends his apostolic credentials and authority

# THE 2<sup>nd</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS – CONT.



## OUTLINE

### Part One: St. Paul's Explanation of his Ministry (1:1-7:6)

#### 1- Introduction

- St. Paul's thanksgiving to God - St. Paul's trouble in Asia

#### 2- St. Paul's Change of Plans

- St. Paul's original plan - St. Paul's change of plans

#### 3- St. Paul's Appeal to Forgive

#### 3- St. Paul's Philosophy of Ministry

- Christ causes us to triumph - Changed lives prove ministry

- New covenant is the basis of ministry

- Christ is the theme of ministry

- Trials abound in the ministry - Motivation in the ministry

- Giving no offense in the ministry

#### 4- St. Paul's Exhortations to the Corinthians

- St. Paul's appeal for reconciliation

- St. Paul's appeal for separation

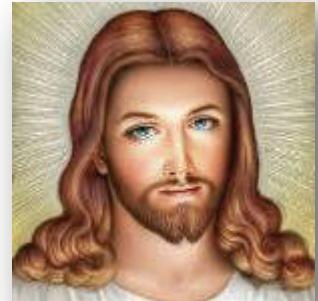
- St. Paul's meeting with Titus

- Corinthians' response to St. Paul's letter

### Part Two: Collection for the Saints (8:1-9:15)

#### 1- Example of the Macedonians

#### 2- Exhortation to the Corinthians



*St. Paul marvels at the treasure of the gospel which God entrusts to human servants.*

**"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."**

*2 Corinthians 12:9*

### Part Three: St. Paul's Vindication of His Apostleship (10:1-13:14)

#### 1- St. Paul Answers his Accusers

- The charge of fearfulness
- The charge of walking in the flesh
- The charge of personal weakness

#### 2- St. Paul Defends his Apostleship

- St. Paul's declaration of his apostleship
- St. Paul's sufferings, revelations and signs

#### 3- St. Paul Announces his Upcoming Visit

- St. Paul's concern and warning

#### 4- Conclusion



## THE 2<sup>nd</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS – CONT.



## SUMMARY

After his salutation and thanksgiving for God's comfort in his affliction and perils, St. Paul explains why he has delayed his planned visit to Corinth. He wanted them to have enough time to repent. He asks them to restore the repentant offender to fellowship.

St. Paul defend his ministry.

- He warns the believers to separate themselves from defilement and expresses his comfort at Titus' news of their change of heart.
- He gave them the example of the Macedonians' liberal giving for the needy in Jerusalem and appeal to them to keep their promise by doing the same.

St. Paul concludes with a defense of his apostolic authority and credentials directed to the still rebellious minority of the Corinthian church.

- His meekness in no way diminishes his authority as an apostle.
- He is forced to boast about his knowledge, integrity, accomplishments, sufferings, visions and miracles.
- He reveals his plan to visit them for the third time.
- He urges them to repent so that he will not have to use severity when he come.



*The letter ends with encouragement, greetings and benediction*

## THE 2<sup>nd</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS – CONT.

# CHRISTIAN DOCTRINES

### THE DIVINITY OF CHRIST

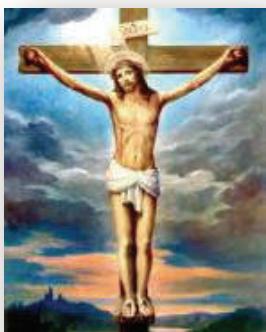
“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort”

1:3 ***Jesus is equal to the Father in mercies and grace.***

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.” 5:10 ***Christ will judge the world.***



### REDEMPTION



“Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 5:18-21 ***We were reconciled by His death***

### THE CHURCH'S BINDING & LOOSING AUTHORITY

This is what St. Paul did in (1 Corinthians 5: 5), when he ordered the adulterer to be cut off from the fellowship of the church. Then in (2 Corinthians 2: 6, 10) he permitted him from this deprivation and forgave him.



### THE TRINITY

### THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

“Knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. 4:14

“And we will have a body glorified in heaven. For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” 5:1

“Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.” 1:21-22  
“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.” 13:14

## QUESTIONS 2<sup>ND</sup> EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

- 1- In the bible the 2<sup>nd</sup> epistle to the Corinthians is followed by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. The epistle to the Ephesians
  - b. The epistle to the Philippians
  - c. The epistle to the Galatians
  
- 2- St. Paul wrote the 2<sup>nd</sup> epistle to the Corinthians from \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Ephesus
  - b. Macedonia
  - c. Jerusalem
  
- 3- Some members of the Corinthian Church denied St. Paul apostleship.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 4- Who told St. Paul about the repentance of the Corinthian Church?
  - a. Timothy
  - b. Philemon
  - c. Titus
  
- 5- Fill in the blank: “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is \_\_\_\_.” 2 Corinthians 6:2
  - a. The time of repentance
  - b. The accepted year
  - c. The day of Salvation
  
- 6- St. Paul visited the Corinthian Church more than once.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 7- Fill in the blank: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is \_\_\_\_\_; old things have passed away” 2 Corinthians 5:17
  - a. A different person
  - b. A new creation
  - c. Faithful
  
- 8- Fill in the blank: “For we walk by \_\_\_\_\_ not by sight” 2 Corinthians 5:7
  - a. The truth
  - b. Faith
  - c. Confidence
  
- 9- In 2 Corinthians chapter 8 and 9 St. Paul talks about \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Giving
  - b. Love
  - c. Joy
  
- 10- In the 2<sup>nd</sup> epistle to the Corinthians St. Paul ask them to restore the repentant offender.
  - a. True
  - b. False

11- St. Paul explained that his delay in visiting the Corinthian Church was because \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. He wanted to visit some other churches first
- b. He wanted to spend more time praying for them
- c. He wanted to give them enough time to repent

12- What example did St. Paul give the Corinthian Church for liberal giving to the needy?

- a. The Macedonian Church
- b. The Church in Jerusalem
- c. None of the above

13- Which of the following Christian doctrine(s) is confirmed in 2 Corinthians?

- a. The divinity of Christ
- b. The trinity
- c. The church binding and loosing authority
- d. a and b
- e. All of the above

14- In defending his apostolic authority St. Paul \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Explained that his meekness in no way diminishes his authority as an apostle
- b. Was forced to boast about his knowledge, sufferings, visions and miracles
- c. a and b

15- Fill in the blank: “For He made Him who knew no sin to be \_\_\_\_\_ for us, that we might become \_\_\_\_\_ God in Him.”

- a. Be crucified, the children of
- b. Be sin, the righteousness of
- c. Suffer, reconciled with

16- Some members of the Corinthian Church accused St. Paul of \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Fearfulness
- b. Walking in the flesh
- c. Personal weakness
- d. All of the above

17- In the 2<sup>nd</sup> epistle to the Corinthians St. Paul announces his upcoming visit to them.

- a. True
- b. False

18- Fill in the blanks: “My \_\_\_\_\_ is sufficient to you, for My power is made perfect in \_\_\_\_\_. ”

19- In 2 Corinthians St. Paul confirms the resurrection of the dead.

- a. True
- b. False

20- In 2 Corinthians St. Paul confirms that \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Jesus is equal to the Father in mercy and grace
- b. Jesus will judge the world
- c. a and b

# THE EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS

## WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle to the Corinthians
- Followed by the Epistle to the Ephesians

## AUTHOR

St. Paul the Apostle wrote it from Ephesus shortly prior to the council of Jerusalem



## GALATIA

A state located in the central part of Asia Minor; It was subject to the Roman state. Several provinces joined it under the name "Antioch State".

St. Paul visited it during his first missionary journey [Antioch of Pisidia, Lystra and Derbe] (Acts 13-14), and he visited it with Silas and Timothy (Acts 16: 6), and also on his third missionary journey (Acts 18:23).

*Galatians is the Christian Declaration of Independence*



## PURPOSE

Some religious activists calling for Judaism came to Galatia asking people to be circumcised and to preserve the Law. They also questioned St. Paul apostleship. St. Paul wrote to them

- To confirm the faith in the cross and entering the "new life" without going back to the Law.
- To defend his apostleship so no one would doubt his preaching.
- To declare that faith in Christ is sufficient to save man, and that circumcision is not necessary for salvation.
- To discuss the meaning of Christian liberty and that it does not mean freedom to sin.

*"O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?" Galatians 3:1*

# THE EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS – CONT.

## KEYS

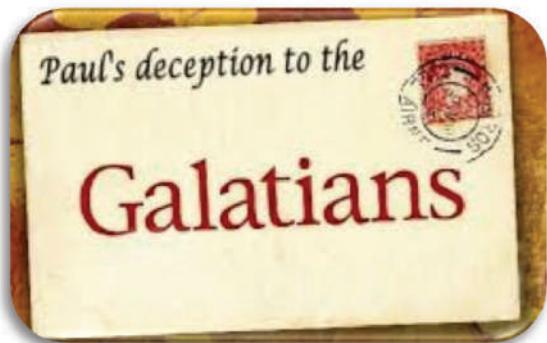
### KEY WORDS

Gospel – Cross - Freedom - Faith

### KEY CHAPTER

#### Chapter 5

This chapter records the power “**walk in the Spirit**” and the results “**The fruit of the Spirit**” of the freedom.



### KEY VERSES

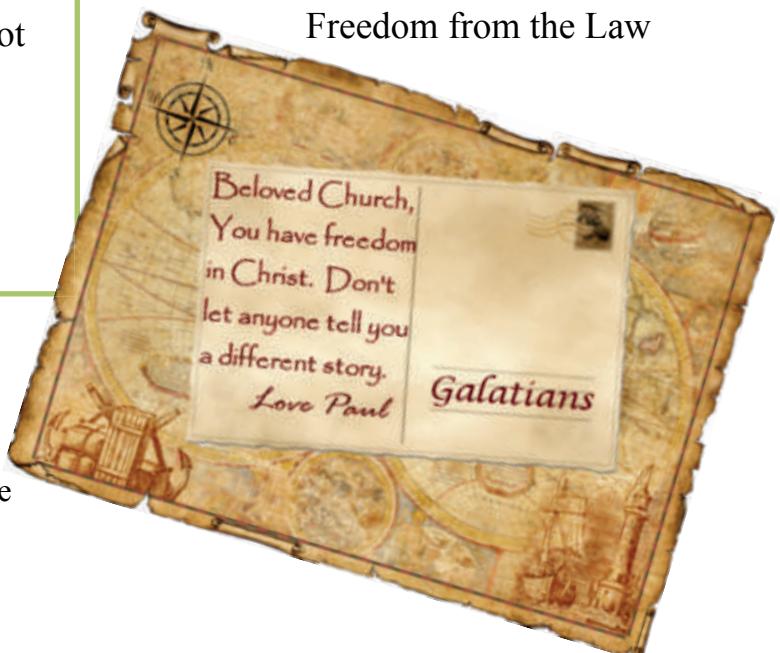
“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”

Galatians 2:20-21

“Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.”  
Galatians 5:1

### KEY PHRASE

Freedom from the Law



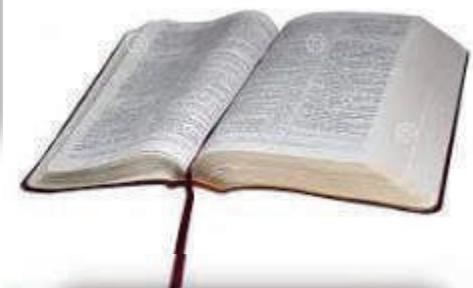
### THEME

Freedom from the bondage of the works of the Law which comes through the faith in Jesus Christ. The cross is our rescue, our freedom, our boast and our life.

# THE EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS – CONT.



## OUTLINE



### 1- The Gospel of Grace Defended 1:1-2:21

- Introduction
- Given by Divine Revelation
- Approved by Jerusalem Leadership
- Vindicated by Rebuking Peter

### 2- The Gospel of Grace Explained 3:1-4:31

- Holy Spirit Given by Faith
- Abraham Justified by Faith
- Justification by Faith not Law
- Galatians Receive Blessing by Faith
- Law and Grace Cannot Coexist

### 3- The Gospel of Grace Applied 5:1-6:18

- Position of Liberty “Stand Fast”
- Practice of Liberty “Love one Another”
- Power of Liberty “Walk in the Spirit”
- Performance of Liberty “Do Good”
- Conclusion



## SECTIONS

1. Only one Gospel
2. St. Paul defending his apostleship
3. Justification by faith
4. Children and heirs
5. Christian liberty
6. Liberty, love and work

## THE EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS – CONT.



## SUMMARY

- The occasion for this letter was a controversy that developed among the churches in Galatia, concerning the matter of requiring Gentile Christians to obey the Mosaic Law. One law very much in question concerned circumcision. The Christians Jewish background could see no reason why this rite should not be required of all Christians, as it was for Jews.
- While Christians with a Gentile background saw no particular value in the observance of the rite of circumcision and wanted to be excused from it.

St. Paul, as an apostle of the Gentiles, was sympathetic to their position. He was convinced that no one could ever be saved by mere obedience to a set of external laws. If Gentile Christians possessed God's Spirit, which is the true meaning of faith, it made no difference at all whether they conformed to the letter of the Mosaic Law. So long as St. Paul remained with these churches, the Jewish and Gentile seemed to get along without any serious trouble.

- But after St. Paul left, trouble began when officials of the church in Jerusalem visited the newly established churches in Galatia. These visitors insisted that the law concerning circumcision, as well as the other requirements of the Mosaic Law, was binding on all Christians, including those coming from a Gentile background. Furthermore, they launched a vicious attack on St. Paul questioning his apostleship. They even went so far as to charge that he was an impostor and was guilty of misleading the membership of the churches.



In response to these charges, St. Paul wrote the Epistle to the Galatians.

At the beginning of the letter, St. Paul expresses astonishment at what has taken place during his absence. He is deeply disappointed when the people among whom he laboured are persuaded by these visiting brethren to turn from the message that he proclaimed.

- Replying to the accusation that he is not a qualified leader of the Christian community, St. Paul defends his apostleship by declaring that Jesus Christ — not men — called him to that office. In support of this claim, he reviews the experiences that led to his conversion and the circumstances under which he carried on his work among the churches.

## THE EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS – CONT.

# SUMMARY

He describes his relationship with the so-called "pillars of the church" at Jerusalem, explaining both the purpose and the outcome of his conferences with them. They were fully informed about the work he was doing and gave their approval to it, specifying in particular that he should devote his main efforts toward the Gentiles.

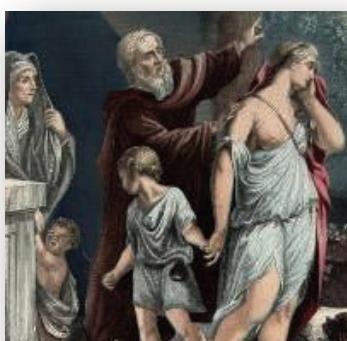


St. Paul clarifies his position concerning the Law, by detailing both its uses and its limitations as a means of obtaining salvation.

The Law shows the defects in a person's character. In this respect, its function is like that of a looking-glass, which reveals blemishes but does not remove them.

*"So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith."* When this goal has been reached, the Law is no longer necessary: "Clearly no one is justified before God by the law." Only by faith in Christ are people justified.

By faith, St. Paul means a commitment on the part of an individual to the way of life exemplified in the person of Jesus. A person who is led by God's Spirit will be saved from sin and the spiritual death that sin brings. That person's desires and whole nature will be so transformed that he will do what is right because he wants to act that way rather than because he thinks it is a duty to be performed in order to obtain a reward.



St. Paul presents the example of Abraham as the father of the faithful and insists that Abraham's righteousness could not have been obtained by obedience to Mosaic laws because those laws were not given until centuries after Abraham died. Hence, Abraham must have obtained righteousness by faith. The same must be true for all of his spiritual descendants. This same point is elaborated in the allegory of Abraham's two sons. One son, Ishmael, was born of a slave woman, but the other son, Isaac, was born of a free woman. Ishmael represents people who are under bondage to the Law, and Isaac represents people who are free in Christ. *"So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free."*

It concludes with a description of the kind of life that a person will live who is filled with the Spirit of God, a life that sharply contrasts to the kind of life a person will live who has carnal desires. *"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me."*

# THE EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS – CONT.

The fruit of the Spirit is One



## TRINITY

- The Father: He is our Father who loves us as His children (1:4)
- The Son: He freed us with His blood from the bondage of sin and the curse of the Law and by grace we will become the image of Christ (1:4, 3:13, 4:19)
- The Holy Spirit: It is the spirit of adoption working in us to bring us to the Father in Christ as His free children. God sent Him to work in us (4:6)

### St. Paul mentions 4 important men in Galatians

**St. Peter** – St. Paul's fellow apostle

**St. Barnabas** – St. Paul's first fellow missionary

**St. Titus** – one of St. Paul's young disciples

**Abraham** – St. Paul's prime exhibit of justification by faith under the Old Covenant.

But the people who tried to prevent St. Paul's Gospel of justification by faith alone are not mentioned by name but called the **Judaizers**.

## NOTES

## UNIQUE FEATURES

The doctrine of justification by faith is stated in Galatians more than any other of St. Paul's letters.

Galatians is a letter of contrast:

- Flesh and Works vs. Spirit and His Fruit
- The World vs. the Cross
- Circumcision vs. New Creation
- Faith vs. Law

## MAIN DOCTRINES

- Justification- by faith alone
- Holy Spirit- we received by Baptism
- Redemption- our rescue is by Jesus Christ's cross
- Adoption- calling God our Father
- The Law- which is a curse to sinners



*“But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*

*Galatians 6:14*

## QUESTIONS EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS

- 1- In the bible the epistle to the Galatians is followed by \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. The epistle to the Philippians
  - b. The epistle to the Romans
  - c. The epistle to the Ephesians
  
- 2- St. Paul wrote the epistle to the Galatians from \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Macedonia
  - b. Ephesus
  - c. Corinth
  
- 3- St. Paul visited Galatia \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. During his first missionary trip
  - b. With Silas and Timothy
  - c. a and b
  
- 4- What did the religious activists do when they went to Galatia?
  - a. They asked the Gentile converts to be circumcised
  - b. They questioned St. Paul apostleship
  - c. a and b
  
- 5- St. Paul wrote to the Galatians that faith in the cross is sufficient for salvation without going back to the Law.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 6- Fill in the blanks: “Stand fast therefore in the \_\_\_\_\_ by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a \_\_\_\_\_. ” Galatians 5:1
  - a. Freedom, sinful life
  - b. Liberty, yoke of bondage
  - c. Salvation, burden of sin
  
- 7- Fill in the blank: “for if righteousness comes through \_\_\_\_\_, then Christ died in vain.” Galatians 2:21
  - a. Circumcision
  - b. The law
  - c. Our deeds
  
- 8- “The fruit of the Spirit” is in Galatians \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Chapter 2
  - b. Chapter 4
  - c. Chapter 5
  
- 9- The apostles St. Peter and St. John called St. Paul to be an apostle.
  - a. True
  - b. False

10- In the epistle to the Galatians St. Paul mentioned \_\_\_\_\_

- a. St. Peter
- b. St. Barnabas
- c. St. Titus
- d. All of the above

11- Which is NOT one the fruit of the Spirit?

- a. Love
- b. Peace
- c. Truth
- d. Patience

12- St. Paul gave the example of \_\_\_\_\_ who obtained righteousness by faith.

- a. Abraham
- b. David
- c. Moses

13- \_\_\_\_\_ represents the people who are free in Christ.

- a. Ishmael
- b. Isaac
- c. None of the above

14- According to St. Paul the Holy Spirit is \_\_\_\_\_ working in us to bring us to the Father.

- a. The Spirit of redemption
- b. The Spirit of justification
- c. The Spirit of adoption

15- The epistle of the Galatians contrasts \_\_\_\_\_

- a. The world versus the cross
- b. Circumcision versus new creation
- c. Faith versus Law
- d. All of the above

# THE EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS

## WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the Epistle to the Galatians
- Followed by the Epistle to the Philippians

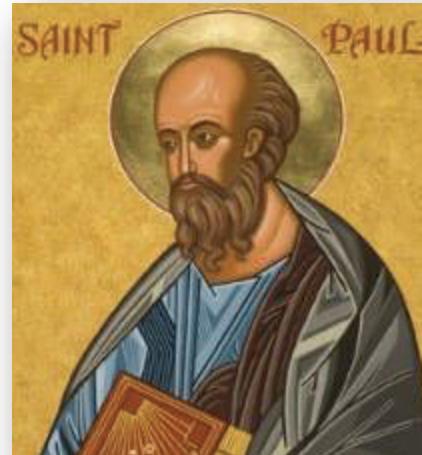
## AUTHOR

St. Paul the Apostle

*He wrote it during his first imprisonment in Rome.*

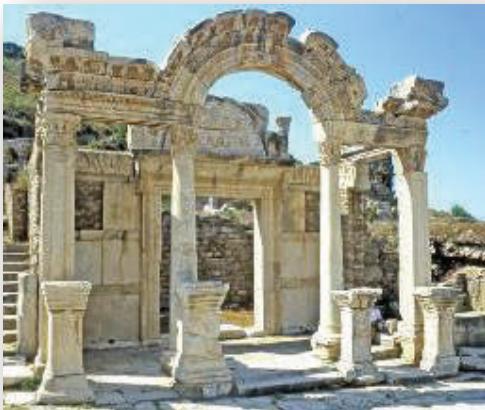
*One of the 4 imprisonment letters (Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon).*

*Delivered by Tychicus.*



*The crown of the Epistles of St. Paul*

## EPHESUS



- Ephesus is a Greek word meaning “Desirable”.
- Ephesus was an ancient Greek city, and later a major Roman city.
- It was one of the largest cities in the Mediterranean world.
- It was the main port and commercial center of Asia and was a religious center for many pilgrimages due to the great Temple of Artemis.
- The people of Ephesus were practicing paganism, magic and sexual immorality.

- St. Paul established the church there, when he visited it on his second missionary trip for a short period on his way back from Corinth to Jerusalem and returned to it on his third trip, where he stayed for more than two years.
- St. John spent his last years there and wrote the Book of Revelation on the island of Patmos near the city of Ephesus.
- The church of Ephesus was one of the seven churches of Asia that are cited in the Book of Revelation.
- The city was the site of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Christian Council to discuss Nestorius heresy.
- St. Paul ministry was successful as a result the people who were practicing magic burned their books because of his success the silversmith raised against him.
- A famous church was established with appointed priests and bishops.

# THE EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS – CONT.

## KEY WORDS

Building the Body of Christ  
The church is the Body of Christ

## KEY CHAPTER

### Chapter 6

Even though the Christian is blessed “with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ” spiritual warfare is still the daily experience of the Christian while in the world.

## KEYS



## KEY VERSES

“And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.” Ephesians 1:22-23

“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.”

Ephesians 4:1-3

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:8-10

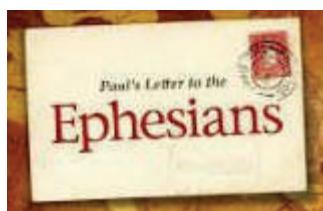


## PURPOSE

- To teach about the church as the body of Christ composed of both Jewish and Gentiles.
- To exhort the believers to conduct themselves properly toward one another because of their oneness in Christ.
- To equip the believers for spiritual warfare.

*A letter to the church at Ephesus explaining the believer's position in Christ*

# THE EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS – CONT.



## OUTLINE

### Chapter 1- The Mystery of Knowing God

1. The Apostolic Blessing
2. In Christ
3. St. Paul's prayer

### Chapter 2- The Mystery of the Resurrection in Christ

1. The Resurrection and our reconciliation with God
2. The Resurrection and reconciliation of mankind together

### Chapter 3- The Mystery of Christ's dwelling in us

1. Realizing the mystery of Christ to the nations
2. The dwelling of Christ by faith
3. The riches of Christ's love for all

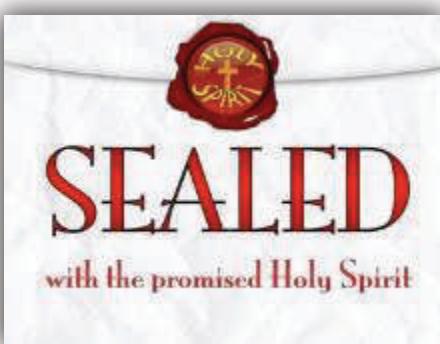
### Chapter 4- The Mystery of Unity Together in Christ

1. The unity of faith
2. The unity of work
3. The unity of care
4. The evil of division
5. Division grieves the Spirit



### Chapter 5 & 6- The Mystery of Practical Life in Christ

1. Imitate God Himself
2. Behavior in Light
3. Scrutiny of behavior and worship
4. Marital relations
5. Parental relations
6. Work relations
7. Spiritual struggle
8. Conclusion



## SECTIONS

**Chapters 1-3:** Focus on the divine gifts to the believers to raise their awareness of their identity in Christ.

**Chapters 4-6:** Include 35 directives that speak of believers' responsibilities to conduct themselves according to their calling (rules for living).

## THE EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS – CONT.



## SUMMARY

Unlike several of the other letters St. Paul wrote, Ephesians does not address any particular error or heresy.

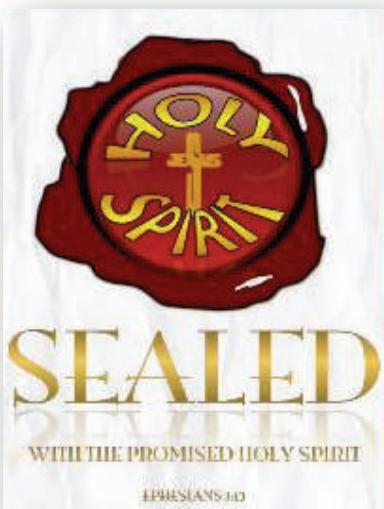
### Ephesians 1: Spiritual Blessings in Christ

St. Paul starts by mentioning how we have received every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus. We have been adopted to sonship, we have been chosen, forgiven and redeemed. We have been marked with a seal and given the Holy Spirit as a down payment of our inheritance. Then St. Paul prays that we will have the revelation of Christ so we can know the hope and power we have been called to as His body, the Church of whom He is the head.



### Ephesians 2: Made Alive in Christ

St. Paul reminds us of God's great love for us, that even when we were dead, Christ made us alive in Him. We have been raised and seated with Christ in heaven and all of this comes by His Grace that we receive through faith. St. Paul also reminds us that Christ has made one Church out of those who had the covenant (Jews) and those who were hopeless and without God (Gentiles) and reconciled both to God through the work of the cross. Now we have access to the same Father and His Holy Spirit lives in us.

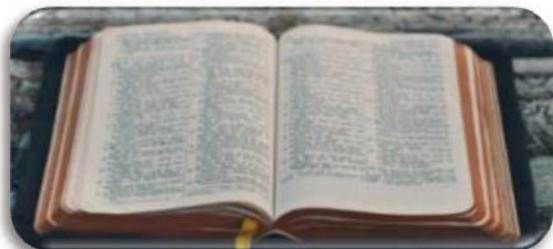


### Ephesians 3: The Mystery of Christ

The mystery of Christ was made known to St. Paul. That through the gospel, Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members of one body and partakers in the promise of Christ Jesus. St. Paul states his mission as an apostle to the Gentiles is to preach the administration of this mystery now revealed. St. Paul ends with a powerful prayer for believers to know and experience the love of God and to be filled to full measure of God according to the power that now lives in us.

Reconciliation with God and reconciliation of mankind together in Christ Jesus (*on the vertical and horizontal levels by the cross*)

# THE EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS – CONT.



## SUMMARY

### Ephesians 4: Unity in the Body of Christ

St. Paul exhorts the believers to live a life worthy of the calling they have received in Christ Jesus. They are called to unity through one Lord, one Spirit, and one hope. God has given apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers to prepare His people for works of service so the body of Christ may be built up and obtain the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. We are reminded to put on the new self- created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.



### Ephesians 5: Be Imitators of God

St. Paul emphasizes that we are to be imitators of God and live a life of love because Christ gave himself up for us as a sacrifice to God. We are to put away sexual immorality, impurity, greed, and foolish talk as it is improper for God's holy people. We are to live as children of light and find out what pleases the Lord. We are to understand the Lord's will, and to be filled with the Spirit.

St. Paul reminds us to give thanks for God in all things and submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. He ends the chapter with instructions for husbands and wives, which illustrates the profound mystery of Christ and the Church.

### Ephesians 6: The Armor of God

St. Paul gives instructions to children, parents, slaves, and masters. He gives practical instructions on how to relate well with others in whatever position you are in life.

St. Paul uses the illustration of a soldier to show how we have been equipped as believers. We are to be strong in the Lord and put on this ARMOR to withstand the devil's schemes.

St. Paul ends this letter with an administration of grace and peace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ.



# THE EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS – CONT.



## SEATED EPH 1-3

*You Have Been Seated with Christ: Your Identity in Christ*



## WALK EPH 4 - 6:14

*Walk Worthy of the Calling: Live Out the Gospel*



## STAND EPH 6

*Stand Firm in the Face of Any Spiritual Opposition*



## THE TRINITY

**The work of the Father:**

Election 1:3-6

**The work of the Son:**

Redemption 1:7-12

**The work of the Holy Spirit:**

Protection 1:13-14

## THE CHURCH IN EPHESIANS

- A Body 1:23
- A Dwelling 2:20, 22
- A Temple 2:21
- A Bride 5:25-32

*“That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love” Ephesians 3:17*

## NOTES



## 7 “NO” IN EPHESIANS

1. “You should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk” 4:17
2. “Be angry, and do not sin” 4:26
3. “Do not let the sun go down on your wrath” 4:26
4. “Nor give place to the devil.” 4:27
5. “Let him who stole steal no longer.” 4:28
6. “Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth” 4:29
7. “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God” 4:30



## Household rules 5:21- 6:9

Wives and husbands

Children and parents

Slaves and masters

*St. Paul used 3 great figures of speech to illustrate our union with Christ.*

- Building 2:21-22
- Body 1:22-23, 4:15
- Bride 5:25-32

## In Christ I am

Blessed – Chosen – Predestined –  
Adopted – Accepted – Redeemed –  
Forgiven – Enlightened – Given an  
inheritance – Sealed – Assured

## QUESTIONS EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS

- 1- In the bible the epistle to the Ephesians is preceded by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. The epistle to the Philippians
  - b. The epistle to the Romans
  - c. The epistle to the Galatians
  
- 2- St. Paul wrote the epistle to the Ephesians during his 2<sup>nd</sup> imprisonment in Rome.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 3- All the following epistles are called “imprisonment epistles” EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Philippians
  - b. Colossians
  - c. Philemon
  - d. Ephesians
  - e. Galatians
  
- 4- All is true about Ephesus EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. It was a main port and commercial center of Asia
  - b. It was the site of the first Christian Council to discuss Arius heresy
  - c. It was a great city due to the temple of Artemis
  - d. The church of Ephesus was mentioned in the book of Revelation
  
- 5- St. Paul stayed in Ephesus for more than 2 years.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 6- The epistle to the Ephesians’ key word is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Building the body of Christ
  - b. The church is the body of Christ
  - c. a and b
  
- 7- Spiritual warfare is the daily experience of the Christian while in the world even though he is blessed. This meaning is highlighted in chapter \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. 1
  - b. 6
  - c. 3
  
- 8- Fill in the blank: For we are His \_\_\_\_\_, created in Christ Jesus for \_\_\_\_\_, which God prepared beforehand that we should \_\_\_\_\_.” Ephesians 2:10
  - a. Workmanship, good works, walk in them
  - b. Children, heavenly things, follow them
  - c. Creation, salvation, believe Him
  
- 9- St. Paul wrote the epistle to the Ephesians \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. To teach about the church as the body of Christ
  - b. To exhort the believers to conduct themselves properly
  - c. To equip the believers for spiritual warfare
  - d. a and c
  - e. All of the above

10- In the Ephesians letter St. Paul addressed many errors in the Ephesian Church.

- a. True
- b. False

11- What do we have in Jesus Christ?

- a. Redemption
- b. Forgiveness
- c. Inheritance
- d. a and b
- e. All of the above

12- How have we been sealed?

- a. By the Holy Spirit
- b. By the name of Jesus
- c. By the blood of Jesus

13- According to St. Paul: we have been raised and seated with Christ \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. In eternity
- b. In heaven
- c. In the church

14- St. Paul tells us that Christ has made one Church out of the Jews and the Gentiles.

- a. True
- b. False

15- St. Paul is calling for unity through one \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Lord
- b. Spirit
- c. Hope
- d. All of the above

16- St. Paul is asking us to put on the breastplate of \_\_\_\_\_.

17- St. Paul is also telling us to take the sword of \_\_\_\_\_.

18- St. Paul reminds us that we should not let \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. The sun go down on our wrath
- b. Any corrupt word proceed out of our mouth
- c. a and b

19- Fill in the blank: “Do not \_\_\_\_\_ the Holy Spirit of God” Ephesians 4:30

- a. Extinguish
- b. Grieve
- c. Leave

20- Fill in the blanks: “That Christ may dwell in your \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_; that you, being rooted and grounded in \_\_\_\_\_” Ephesians 3:17

- a. Hearts, faith, love
- b. You, trust, Him
- c. Hearts, understanding, faith

# THE EPISTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS

## WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the Epistle to the Ephesians
- Followed by the Epistle to the Colossians

## AUTHOR

St. Paul the Apostle

*A joyful letter to the church at Philippi, telling of St. Paul's conquering faith during imprisonment*



## PHILIPPI



- A city in Macedonia its original name was Crenides, the city was renamed by Philip II who expanded and fortified it and called it after his name.
- Philippians fell under the control of the Romans and later it became a Roman colony; meaning it had Roman privileges, therefore the Philippians were proud of this situation.
- It became one of the most famous Macedonian cities.
- Because of its geographical location, it became an important trading city.
- Magic, divination and pagan worship spread in it.

- St. Paul visited it during his 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary trip after he had a vision where a man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." He went with Timothy, Luke and Silas.
- He founded the first church in Europe, and many believed. Lydia the seller of purple was the first to believe in Philippi and was the first Christian in Europe.
- St. Paul and Silas were imprisoned after St. Paul cast out a spirit of divination from a slave girl. In prison, St. Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, and the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains were loosed. When the jail keeper wanted to kill himself St. Paul prevented him. The Philippian jailor believed and was baptized with his entire household.
- St. Paul visited Philippi again during his 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary trip.

# THE EPISTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS – CONT.

## KEY WORD

Rejoice

## KEY CHAPTERS

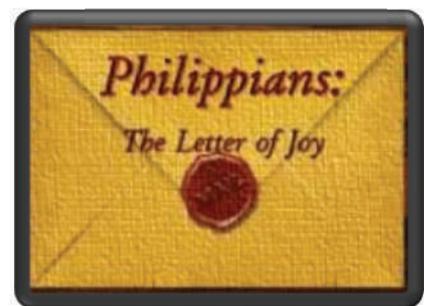
Chapter 2 & 4

- The revelation of the humility of Jesus Christ when He left heaven to become a servant of man.
- An appeal to rejoice in the Lord always

## KEY PHRASE

For me to live is Christ

## KEYS



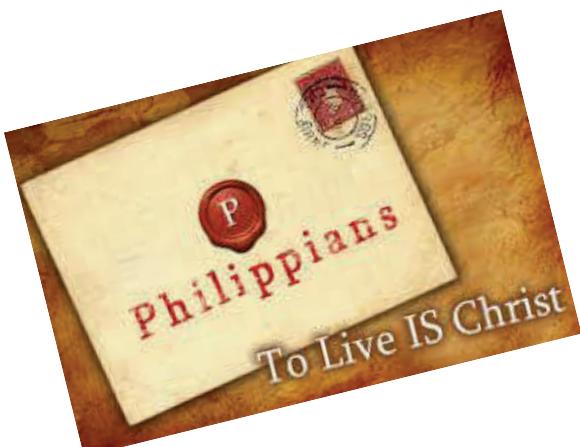
Prominent theme is JOY. The word rejoice is repeated 10 times.

## KEY VERSES

“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” Philippians 1:21

“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!” Philippians 4:4

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13



## PURPOSE

It is the epistle of joy and encouragement in the midst of adverse circumstances

Rejoice in the midst of suffering  
Rejoice in the service  
Rejoice in the Lord  
Rejoice always

# THE EPISTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS – CONT.



## OUTLINE

### Chapter 1- St. Paul Account of His Present Circumstance

- St. Paul’s prayer of thanksgiving
- St. Paul’s afflictions promote the gospel
- St. Paul’s afflictions exalt the Lord
- St. Paul’s exhortation to be afflicted

### Chapter 2- St. Paul’s Appeal to Have the Mind of Christ

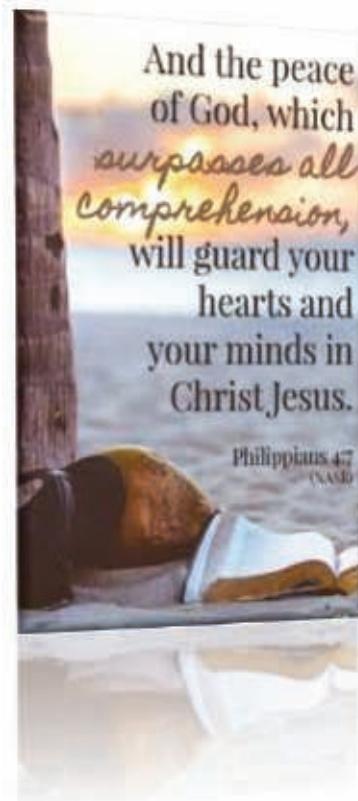
- St. Paul’s exhortation to humility
- Christ’s example of humility
- St. Paul’s example of humility
- Timothy’s example of humility
- Epaphroditus’s example of humility

### Chapter 3- St. Paul’s Appeal to Have the Knowledge of Christ

- Warning against confidence in the flesh
- Exhortation to know Christ
- Warning against living for the flesh

### Chapter 4- St. Paul’s Appeal to Have the Peace of Christ

- Peace with the brethren
- Peace with the Lord
- Peace in all circumstances
- Conclusion



*Chapter 1- St. Paul’s account of his present circumstances*

*Chapter 2- St. Paul’s appeal to have the mind of Christ*

*Chapter 3- St. Paul’s appeal to have the knowledge of Christ*

*Chapter 4- St. Paul’s appeal to have the peace of Christ*

# THE EPISTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS – CONT.

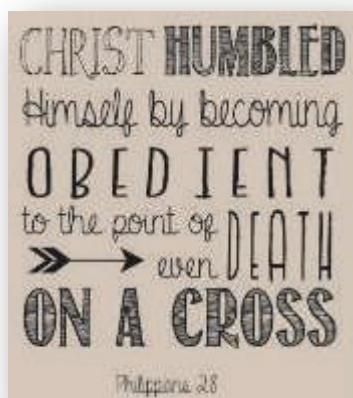
## SUMMARY



### Chapter 1 - The Advancing Gospel

It is a personal and affectionate letter. St. Paul opens with a prayer of thanksgiving, praying for us to abound in love and knowledge. He says that through his circumstances the gospel of Christ is continually advancing. He shares his desire to be with Christ and encourages believers to stand firm in the faith until the end.

St. Paul explains that there are two things granted by God for a believer; the first is to believe in Him, and the other is to suffer.



### Chapter 2 - Imitate Christ

St. Paul exhorts us to follow the example of Christ, who humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death. He reminds us to have the same attitude as Christ.

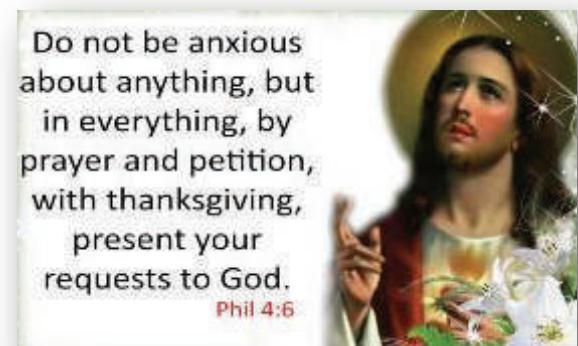
### Chapter 3 - Pressing Onward

St. Paul starts with a warning against placing confidence in things that make us look good by human standards. He mentions his many achievements before counting them as garbage in comparison to knowing Christ Jesus and the righteousness that comes by faith.

### Chapter 4 - Rejoice in the Lord

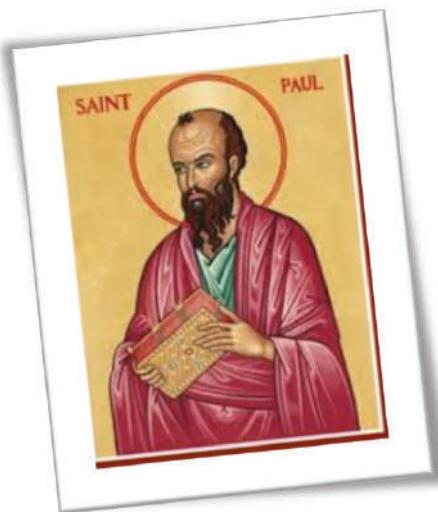
St. Paul opens with a reminder to rejoice in the Lord. He shows how rejoicing brings about the peace of God in our lives. We are instructed to pray with thanksgiving and think on the things that are true, noble, excellent and praiseworthy. He then thanks the church for their gifts, mentioning how our gifts are fragrant and acceptable offerings to the Lord.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.  
Phil 4:6



*It is one of St. Paul's most personal letters; he shows his own experience with Christ. He appeals to have the:*  
*Mind of Christ*  
*Knowledge of Christ*  
*Peace of Christ*

# THE EPISTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS – CONT.



# NOTES

## CONTENT

- Joy is the characteristic of the epistle
- It expresses the meaning of incarnation and salvation
- St. Paul declares his confidence in the work of the Lord
- Sanctification of the feelings and emotions
- God willing to work in us
- The importance of submission



## THE CHURCH IN PHILIPPI

- It had a smaller Jewish community
- It had a special place in St. Paul's heart as he visited it according to a heavenly vision
- The people of this church were distinguished by their great love for St. Paul
- It was a suffering church

- *St. Paul was Jewish the Philippians were Gentiles*
- *St. Paul was proud because he was Jewish, the Philippians were proud because they were Roman*
- *St. Paul was from Asia the Philippians were from Europe*
- *St. Paul spoke Hebrew and Greek the Philippians spoke Latin and Greek*

## CHARACTERISTICS

- No Old Testament quotations
- It is a missionary thank you letter for the progress of St. Paul's work
- The name of Christ is repeated more than 30 times
- Does not contain any doctrinal teachings

Knowing Jesus...  
Knowing Joy!

## QUESTIONS EPISTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS

- 1- In the bible the epistle to the Philippians is followed by \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. The epistle to the Hebrews
  - b. The epistle to Philemon
  - c. The epistle to the Colossians
  
- 2- St. Paul wrote the epistle to the Philippians while he was in prison.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 3- All is true about Philippi EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. It is a city in Macedonia
  - b. It was a Roman colony
  - c. It was an important trading city
  - d. St. Paul visited it during his 1<sup>st</sup> missionary trip
  
- 4- St. Paul visited Philippi after he saw a vision of a man telling him: \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. “Come over to here and save us”
  - b. “Come over to Macedonia and help us”
  - c. None of the above
  
- 5- Who was the first to believe in Philippi?
  - a. The Philippian jailor
  - b. The governor of the city
  - c. Lydia the seller of purple
  
- 6- Why were St. Paul and Silas sent to jail in Philippi?
  - a. Because St. Paul cast out a spirit of divination from a slave girl
  - b. Because St. Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns
  - c. a and b
  
- 7- What is the key word in the epistle to the Philippians?
  - a. Trust
  - b. Rejoice
  - c. Love
  
- 8- St. Paul explained that his affliction helped in the promotion of the gospel.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- 9- Fill in the blank: “For to me, to live is \_\_\_\_\_, and to die is gain.” Philippians 1:21
  - a. Christ
  - b. Joy
  - c. Benefit
  
- 10- The purpose of the epistle to the Philippians is encouragement in the midst of adverse circumstances.
  - a. True
  - b. False

11- St. Paul appeals the Philippians to have the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.

- a. Mind
- b. Knowledge
- c. Peace
- d. All of the above

12- St. Paul explained that the believer is granted

- a. To believe in Christ
- b. To suffer for Christ
- c. a and b

13- In Chapter 2- St. Paul reminds the Philippians that Christ humbled Himself and became \_\_\_\_

- a. Man for our salvation
- b. Obedient to the point of death
- c. None of the above

14- Fill in the blank: “In everything by prayer and supplication, with \_\_\_\_\_, let your requests be made known to God” Philippians 4:6

- a. Thanksgiving
- b. Faith
- c. Understanding

15- In the epistle to the Philippians St. Paul thanked them for their offerings.

- a. True
- b. False

16- The church in Philippi \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Was a suffering church
- b. Had a special place in St. Paul’s heart
- c. Had a smaller Jewish community
- d. All of the above

17- The prominent theme of the epistle to the Philippians is \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Hope
- b. Joy
- c. Salvation

18- The epistle to the Philippians does not contain any doctrinal teachings.

- a. True
- b. False

19- The epistle to the Philippians has more than 10 Old Testament quotes.

- a. True
- b. False

20- All is true about the Philippians EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. They were Gentiles
- b. They spoke Latin and Greek
- c. They had Roman privileges
- d. They did not like St. Paul

# THE EPISTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS

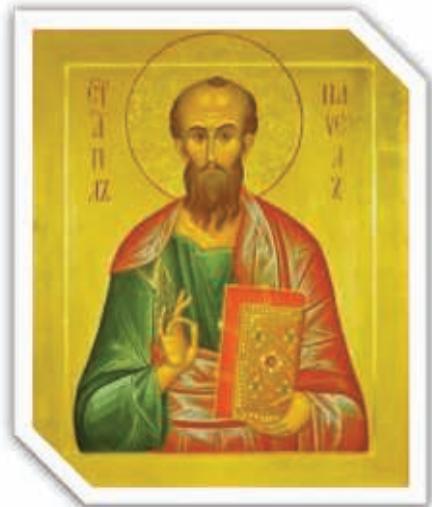
## WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the Epistle to the Philippians
- Followed by the 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle to the Thessalonians

## AUTHOR

St. Paul the Apostle

*It was written during his first imprisonment in Rome and sent by the hand of Tychicus accompanied with Onesimus the converted slave.*



## COLOSSAE

- The city of Colossae is in Asia Minor on the River Lycus, 12 miles from Laodicea.
- It was the trade route extending from east to west, but the road was moved so it lost its importance.
- The Colossian church started at the hands of Epaphras, the disciple of St. Paul.
- Many of St. Paul's spiritual friends and children had served there beside Philemon and Onesimus.
- St. Paul visited it on his 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary trip.

St. Paul wrote this letter before he visited the Colossian church. Epaphras, visited him in Rome and told him about some corrupt teachings that spread there.



*The return to Judaism and the literal practice of Jewish rituals mixed with Gnostic, oriental views that rely on human rational knowledge as a basis for salvation and worship of angels, etc.*

St. Paul writes to them to protect their faith from these heresies.

# THE EPISTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS – CONT.

## KEY WORD

Fullness

## KEY CHAPTER

Chapter 1  
The indwelling of Christ

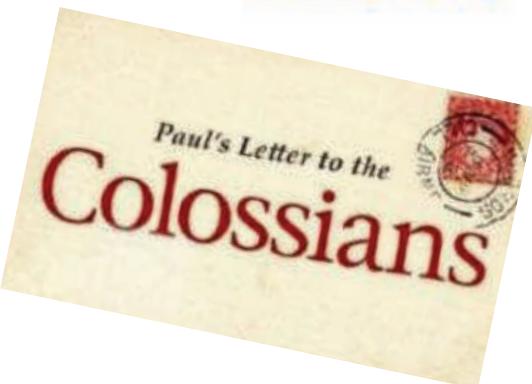
## KEY THEME

Christ is the Lord of all creation

## KEY VERSES

“For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.”

Colossians 2:9,10



*Christ is the  
Fullness of God*

“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth” Colossians 3:1,2

## KEY DOCTRINES

**Christology:** The most Christological book in the Bible

**Revelation:** The battle against heresy is at root and issue of truth verses error

**Creation:** The universe as God created it and the incarnation of Christ in physical form are good and therefore not to be denied

**Salvation:** Christ’s atonement is the only sufficient basis of salvation

**Sanctification:** It contains an extended passage of ethical instruction in holy living



# THE EPISTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS – CONT.



## OUTLINE

*Christ is the Head of Everything*

### Part one: The Supremacy of Christ in the Church- Chapters 1:1-2:23

#### 1- Introduction

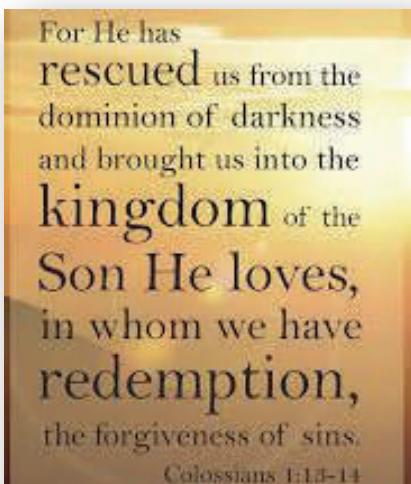
- St. Paul's greeting to the Colossians
- St. Paul's thanksgiving for the Colossians
- St. Paul's prayer for the Colossians

#### 2- The Preeminence of Christ

- Christ is preeminent in creation
- Christ is preeminent in redemption
- Christ is preeminent in the Church

#### 3- The Freedom in Christ

- Freedom from enticing words
- Freedom from vain philosophy
- Freedom from the judgment of men
- Freedom from improper worship
- Freedom from the doctrine of men



### Part two: The Submission to Christ in the Church – Chapters 3:1-4:18

#### 1- The Position of the Believer

#### 2- The Practice of the Believer

- Put off the old man
- Put on the new man
- Personal commands for holiness

#### 3- Conclusion

- Commendation of Tychicus
- Greetings from St. Paul friends
- Introductions regarding this letter

# THE EPISTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS – CONT.



## SUMMARY

***Be Rooted in Christ Alone***

***Beware of Heresies***

### Chapter 1- The Supremacy of Christ

St. Paul opens with a prayer of thanksgiving. He encourages us that the gospel continues to grow and bear fruit just as it is doing in us. He describes Christ's supremacy demonstrated by His eternal nature that both created everything and continuously holds it in place. St. Paul reiterates his mission, which is to present the Word of God in its fullness... a mystery hidden for ages but now revealed in us. ***This mystery is Christ in you, the hope of glory.***



### Chapter 2 – Life in Christ

St. Paul continues to explain the mystery of God, which is Christ. We are encouraged to continue in Him in the same way we received Him by faith. We are reminded of His glorious victory on the cross and His salvation. We are also reminded that our circumcision was done by the Spirit of God and encouraged to put aside principles and rules that are based on human teachings and commands.

### Chapter 3 – Put on the New Self

St. Paul reminds us that we have been raised with Christ so we should set our hearts on things above. We died with Christ to the things of this world. We are instructed to put them aside along with our old self. And in its place, to put on our new self, which is being renewed in the knowledge and image of our Creator. St. Paul then gives practical ways in how to live this out as well as instructions for family life.

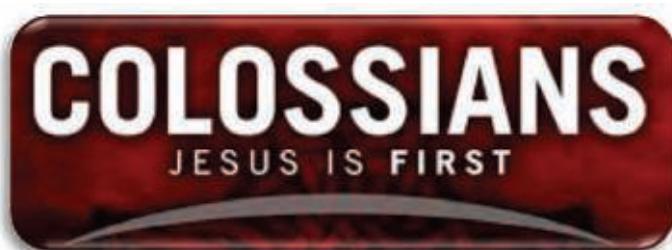
### Chapter 4 – To Proclaim the Mystery of Christ

St. Paul wraps up with instructions on prayer. He reminds us to be devoted to prayer. We are instructed to make the most of every opportunity, speaking to each other with grace in our conversations. St. Paul closes the letter with a final greeting to the church from others who minister with him.

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.  
**Colossians 3:15**



# THE EPISTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS – CONT.



## NOTES



### CHRIST IS EVERYTHING

- He is the light who delivered us from the power of darkness
- He is the Savior who delivered us from the power of the devil and took us to His kingdom
- He is the image of the invisible God
- He is the creator
- He is the Head of the body, the church



*A Christological focus  
to refute specific false  
doctrines*

- St. Paul countered the false teaching in Colossae by emphasizing the divinity, saving the mission and supremacy of Jesus Christ.
- St. Paul warned against those who taught that true spirituality was gained through special rituals, festivals and diets.

### CONTENT

The first part is an exposition of Christ's supremacy

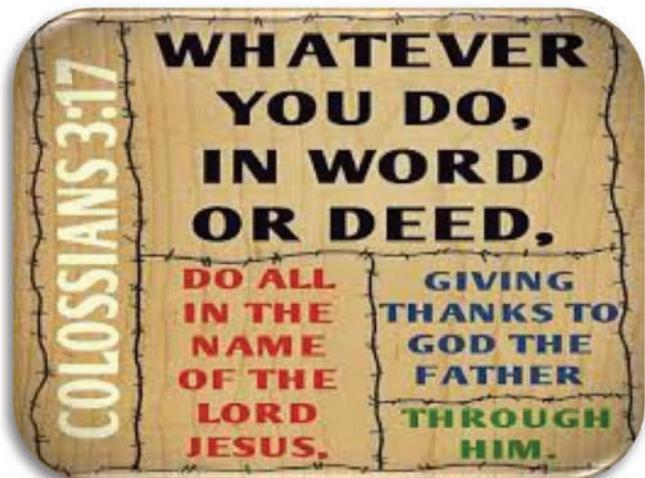
The second part the unity of the believers with Christ in His death, resurrection and exaltation

Chapter 1 Christ is the Depth

Chapter 2 Christ is the Height

Chapter 3 Christ is the Inner Life

Chapter 4 Christ is the Outer Life



## THE EPISTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS – CONT.



# GNOSTICISM

Gnosticism (after *gnōsis*, the Greek word for “knowledge”) is the name given to a religious and philosophical movement that flourished in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries.

- 1- Gnostics considered the body unclean.
- 2- They denied that Christ is God and Savior.
- 3- They divided the believers into classes:
  - The knowledgeable or perfect people; who have wisdom and knowledge and said that those would be saved.
  - The simple; who receives the message blindly.
- 4- Essential points in Gnosticism:
  - The material world is bad, the spirit world is good. The material world is under the control of evil, ignorance or nothingness.
  - A divine spark is somehow trapped in some (but not all) humans and it alone is capable of redemption.
  - Salvation is through a secret knowledge by which individuals come to know themselves, their origin and destiny.
  - Since a good God could not have created an evil world, it must have been created by an inferior, ignorant or evil god.
- 5- They rejected the incarnation; God would never become man or step into man’s world.
- 6- Because of God’s great distance from the universe, they believed that God must be approached through a series of angelic intermediaries



*St. Paul did not reject knowledge but explained that it is a divine gift, and that the Gospel is for the whole world.*

*The word ALL is repeated 32 times. St. Paul repeats the word "all" to announce that salvation is for everyone who believes in Christ.*

For in Him dwells  
all the fullness  
of the Godhead bodily.

Colossians 2:9

## QUESTIONS EPISTLE TO THE COLOSSIANS

- 1- In the bible the epistle to the Colossians is preceded by the epistle \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Rome while he was in prison  
b. Ephesus during his 1<sup>st</sup> missionary trip  
c. None of the above
  
- 2- St. Paul wrote the epistle to the Colossians from \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Rome while he was in prison  
b. Ephesus during his 1<sup>st</sup> missionary trip  
c. None of the above
  
- 3- Who was Onesimus?  
a. St. Paul companion in his missionary trips  
b. A converted slave  
c. A Gentile merchant
  
- 4- St. Paul wrote the epistle to the Colossians after he visited the Colossian church.  
a. True                      b. False
  
- 5- The Colossian church started at the hands of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. St. Paul  
b. Onesimus  
c. Epaphras
  
- 6- St. Paul visited Colossae during his 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary trip.  
a. True                      b. False
  
- 7- What corrupt teachings were spreading in the Colossian church?  
a. The practice of the Jewish rituals  
b. Gnostic beliefs and teachings  
c. a and b
  
- 8- The key theme of the epistle to the Colossians is \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Christ is the Lord of all creation  
b. We are justified by faith  
c. Rejoicing in God's salvation
  
- 9- Fill in the blanks: "For in Him \_\_\_\_\_ all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all \_\_\_\_\_. " Colossians 2:9,10  
a. Exists, the universe  
b. Dwells, principality and power  
c. Abide, angels and power
  
- 10- Fill in the blank: "Seek those things which are \_\_\_\_\_, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of \_\_\_\_\_" Colossians 3:1  
a. Above, God  
b. In heaven, the Father  
c. Heavenly, God

11- In the epistle to the Colossians, St. Paul confirms that Christ's atonement is the only sufficient basis of salvation.

- a. True
- b. False

12- In the epistle to the Colossians, St. Paul affirms the preeminence of Christ in \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Creation
- b. Redemption
- c. The church
- d. All of the above

13- In Christ we have freedom from \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Vain philosophy
- b. Improper worship
- c. a and b

14- The supremacy of Christ is demonstrated by His eternal nature that both created everything and continuously holds it in place.

- a. True
- b. False

15- In the epistle to the Colossians, St. Paul is instructing us to put off the old man and put on

- a. Christ
- b. The new man
- c. The new creation

16- According to the epistle to the Colossians Christ is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. The light who delivered us from the power of darkness
- b. The image of the invisible God
- c. The creator
- d. a and b
- e. All of the above

17- In the epistle to the Colossians, St. Paul confirms the unity of the believers with Christ in His death, resurrection and exaltation.

- a. True
- b. False

18- All is true about Gnosticism EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. They considered the body unclean
- b. They rejected the incarnation
- c. They believed that salvation is through Jesus Christ
- d. They believed the knowledgeable people would be saved

19- St. Paul repeats the word "All" to announce that salvation is for everyone who believes in Christ.

- a. True
- b. False

20- Fill in the blanks: "And whatever you do in \_\_\_\_\_, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, \_\_\_\_\_ God the Father through Him" Colossians 3:17

## ANSWERS KEY

Romans	1 Corinthians	2 Corinthians	Galatians	Ephesians	Philippians	Colossians
1- c	1- a	1- c	1- c	1- c	1- c	1- to the Philippians
2- b	2- c	2- b	2- b	2- b	2- a	2- a
3- d	3- b	3- a	3- c	3- e	3- d	3- b
4- a	4- a	4- c	4- c	4- b	4- b	4- b
5- a	5- d	5- c	5- a	5- a	5- c	5- c
6- c	6- b	6- a	6- b	6- c	6- a	6- a
7- e	7- Chapter 13	7- b	7- b	7- b	7- b	7- c
8- a	8- b	8- b	8- c	8- a	8- a	8- a
9- c	9- c	9- a	9- b	9- e	9- a	9- b
10- a	10- d	10- a	10- d	10-b	10- a	10- a
11- c	11- e	11-c	11- c	11-e	11- d	11- a
12- c	12-b	12-a	12- a	12-a	12- c	12- d
13- a	13- a	13- e	13- b	13-b	13- b	13- c
14- a	14- a	14- c	14- c	14-a	14- a	14- a
15- c	15- b	15-b	15- d	15-d	15- a	15- b
16- a	16- a	16-d		16-Righteousness	16- d	16- e
17- c	17- a	17-a		17-The Spirit	17- b	17- a
18- d	18- c	18-Grace, weakness		18-c	18- a	18- c
19- b	19- b			19-b	19- b	19- a
20- a	20- a	19- a 20- c		20-a	20- d	20- Word or deed, giving thanks to

**Church of the Virgin Mary & St. Athanasius  
Canadian Coptic Centre**

1245 Eglinton Avenue W.,  
Mississauga, ON  
L5V 2M4

[www.cccnet.ca](http://www.cccnet.ca)