



# Truth for Today

September 6, 2020

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## THE END OF COLOSSIANS

by Daniel Broadwell

Like many of Paul's letters, Colossians ends with some personal comments about people he knows in the church, or people that are with him that want to send their greetings. While we didn't cover this text in our sermon series, I will use this space to make a few closing comments of my own about what can be gained from these 'end credits.'

**The family of believers is an amazing blessing.** Paul had likely never met these Christians face to face. But the wonderful thing about being in God's family is that you don't have to have met someone to have a connection with them. The very fact that Paul wrote this letter shows that he cared for these Christians because of their standing in the Lord. In 4:7-8, he says that Tychicus is coming to them and will report on Paul's situation. Had they ever met Tychicus? We don't know, maybe not. Either way, in Christ, Paul, Tychicus, and the Colossians were bonded together in love and unity.

**Sometimes God's word gets very real and very personal.** In 4:9, Paul says that Onesimus is coming too. Who is this guy? In the book of Philemon, Paul explains that Onesimus was Philemon's slave who ran away and (providentially) met Paul in Rome. After being converted, he was now returning to Philemon in Colossae. Wow. Turns out all that business about forgiveness and the slave/master relationship wasn't theoretical! These men were going to have to put this stuff into practice.

**There's hope after failure.** In 4:10, Paul sends greetings from Mark, Barnabas' cousin. This is surely the same John Mark that left Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey (Acts 13:13). Because of that departure, Paul refused to take him on the second journey (Acts 15:36-41). How cool is it that even after that apparent failure Mark continued to work and was recognized by Paul? In 2 Timothy 4:11 (written at the end of Paul's life), he goes further and says Mark "is very useful to me."

**We are called to invest in others.** Paul mentioned in 1:7-8 that it was Epaphras who started the church in Colossae and reported to Paul, prompting him to write this letter. Paul mentions Epaphras again in 4:12-13 and says how hard he is working on their behalf and how deeply he cares for them. Oh, that we would pour ourselves into others the same way Epaphras poured into the Colossians!

**Not everyone will make it.** 4:14 mentions two people that send greetings: Luke and Demas. By the way, this

verse is how we know that Luke (who wrote Luke and Acts) was a physician. Luke shows up all over the New Testament—a beloved co-worker of Paul's. Demas, however, doesn't have the same story. 2 Timothy 4:10 tells us that Demas, "having loved this present world," forsook Paul. Let us always be vigilant to avoid be drawn away by the allurements of the world.

**Paul's letters were meant to be spread.** 4:16 gives us a detail that is not only fascinating, but important for our understanding of how the New Testament spread. Paul says that he's written a letter to the church in Laodicea, and that he wants the two churches to 'letter-swap' after they've read them. This is what the Holy Spirit always intended—that the writings of the apostles would circulate among Christians who would copy them and preserve them for future generations!

### SEPTEMBER 21-23

on Monday through Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

## Is there a Prophet in Israel?

stories from the life of Elisha



presented by  
**DANIEL BROADWELL**  
of Houston, TX.

## UPDATE ON FALL MEETING.

1. **NEW TIMES.** This meeting is from Monday through Wednesday night only. Each meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Also, there will be no Tuesday morning meeting. So be sure to put these **three nights** on your calendar.
2. **WELCOME.** There will be no meal hosting for the preacher as we usually plan. However, be sure to welcome he and his family and get to know them at the building.
3. **INVITE.** Please pick up a few postcards or flyers and invite your friends. You should also find PDFs in future emails as well as advertising on Social Media like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Many people (including other Christians) will be excited to meet with others and some will be nervous (in light of the pandemic). Show compassion and concern and welcome those who would want to come—encourage others who would prefer to join us in LiveStream.

# NEWS & NOTES

## UPDATED PRAYER LIST

- Lyn Ray was released Friday after a successful angiogram with no stents.
- Isaac Crawford's dad, Michael Crawford, is improving.
- Debbie Horn's 40 year old son, Brett, father of 2 in Florida, had a seizure yesterday and is hospitalized. MRI scheduled today.
- Linda Peterson's daughter in law, Shanon, had surgery Monday on a dislocated shoulder in Kingwood.
- Morgan Potter's mother, Jackie, will have surgery Tuesday to remove non-cancerous lesions from her gums.
- Dehbrenda Preuss' dad, Bill Harrison, remains in the hospital and has shown some improvement from an infection.
- Jenica St John's dad, Bob St. John, has made good improvements while he waits for organ transplant.
- Jamie Yancy's cousin, Grey McKellar, had a "life vest" defibrillator installed to shock his heart in arrhythmia episodes. He will see a cardiologist to be put on the transplant list to resolve his low ejection fraction in his heart.
- Rommie Back had a successful procedure in placing three stents on Thursday. They were scheduled to return home on Saturday.
- See Enews for Ongoing Prayer List

## IN-PERSON SCHEDULE

- SUNDAYS, 8:30 am AND 10:00 AM.**
  - All in-person events have open seating with set capacities for each pew. Seating will be self-seated in recommended spacings. Please continue to follow recommended wearing of face masks, especially when singing.
- WEDNESDAY NIGHT Bible Classes. 7:00 pm.**
  - Adult class will meet in the auditorium for *Becoming more like Jesus* and children classes will meet in their rooms to resume the curriculum series.
- TUESDAY ADULT class, 10:30 am.**
  - FROM BONDAGE TO FREEDOM: the story of Israel (from Exodus, Leviticus, Num-

bers) and will meet in the auditorium.

## VIRTUAL SCHEDULE

- (beginning September, All LiveStream events are InPerson):
- Worship** | LiveStream on Sundays, 8:30 a.m. with replay access on our YouTube Channel.
  - Adult Class** | Livestream on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. with replay access on our YouTube Channel.
  - Adult Class** | LiveStream on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. with replay access on our YouTube Channel.

## MEETINGS, EVENTS, SINGINGS & STUDIES

- 2:52 Kids Class [2-12]** | (TBA)
- TEENS STUDY [13-18]** | (TBA)
- YOUNG ADULTS [20s]** | (TBA)
- TEEN DEVO [12-18]** | (TBA)
- ADULT STUDY [30/40]** | (TBA)
- BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES** Monthly Bible Class | Sunday, 9/6/2020. 4:00 p.m.
- BARNABAS GROUP** | See Leo Betancourt. **NEXT GROUP MEETING** for Barnabus group is Sunday, 9/27, at 9:40 am (between both morning services).
- MEETING with Daniel Broadwell** | 9/21-23. Printed flyers and postcards are available on the member table. Be sure to check our our FB, Instagram and Twitter accounts and share the social media invitation there.
- WOMEN'S DAY with Carmen Betton** | 10/10. Printed flyers and postcards are available on the member table. Look for social media notifications soon.
- MEN'S DAY with David McClister** | 11/7. Printed flyers and postcards are available on the member table. Look for social media notifications soon .

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- VOLUNTEER SIGN UPS.** See the Monthly Assignments and contact Barrett Blankenship (8:30) or Al Suarez (10:00) if you can't serve.
- WOULD YOU ENCOURAGE?** See Leo Betancourt about Barnabus Group. NEXT

GROUP MEETING for Barnabus group is Sunday, 9/27, at 9:40 am (between both morning services).

- HOSPITALITY?** Contact Maureen Chegin and Cecelia Neel if you need coordinated food.
- TEACH?** We need teachers for Winter Quarter. Contact Don Hooton if you can teach.

## DIRECTORY UPDATES

- PHOTO DIRECTORIES** | If you have problems with the directories we make available, contact Brian Clark. Also, the INSTANTCHURCH-DIRECTORY APP can be downloaded in the APP store so you can get logged in. Members can log into the Online Member Directory at <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/> If you have any questions about the DIRECTORY application of our website, be sure to see Brian Clark. We need all updates on the directory by the September 27,

## WEEKLY BIBLE READING

**Week Thirty-Five** (beginning 9/6)

- READ Psalm 35, 85, 135
- MEMORIZE Psalm 135:1-3

Attendance	InPerson Average Last-Month	Virtual Average Last-Month	InPerson Last Week	Virtual Views Last Week
Sunday Adult Class	n/a	14	n/a	n/a
Sunday Worship AM	112	62	103	48
Tuesday Adult Class	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sunday Worship PM	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wednesday PM	n/a	26	45	14

SUNDAYS	8:30 AM   9/6	10:00 AM   9/6	8:30 AM   9/13	10:00 AM   9/13	Contact Information
Foyer 1-Welcome	C. Preuss	D. Haas	C. Preuss	S. Jones	Elders
Foyer 2-Ushering	L. Betancourt	A. Suarez	A. Bohanan	M. Chandler	Keith Arrants   936.582.1244
SongLeading	S. Dargan	D. Haas	K. Arrants	J. Chandler	George Chapman   281.298.1303
1 <sup>st</sup> Prayer	H. Goble	L. Cockrell	H. Clark	G. Betton	Norman Davis   832.326.2966
Scripture	C. Chapman	C. Ford	Michel Harvey	A. Suarez	Don Hooton   936.443.6230
Scripture Reading	Philippians 4:4-9	Acts 20:7-12	Acts 8:26-39	1Timothy 2:1-6	Deacons
Communion_Lead	J. Dulin	M. Chandler	B. Blankenship	B. Clark	Adam Bohanan   281.798.1093
Preaching	D. Hooton	D. Hooton	D. Hooton	D. Hooton	Brian Clark   281.513.0706
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prayer	Mitch Harvey	G. LeBlanc	G. Hodges	L. Ray	Gary LeBlanc   281.292.0262
Announcements	K. Arrants	H. Clark	G. Chapman	N. Davis	Craig Preuss   832.477.0578
Sanitize-Bathrooms After	K&D Arrants	M&C Chandler	N&T Davis	D&T Hooton	Evangelists
Sanitize-Pews After	J. Fancher	J&M Chegin	A&S Bohanan	C&L Ford	Don Hooton   936.443.6230
Building Open/Lockup	C. Latson	B. Clark	D. Hooton	D. Haas	Website
Sound 1	C. Latson	C. Latson	C. Latson	C. Latson	<a href="http://www.woodlandschurchofchrist.org">www.woodlandschurchofchrist.org</a>
Communion Prep	G&L Chapman	G&L Chapman	G&L Chapman	G&L Chapman	Office Phone
Counting Contribution	G. Chapman	G. Chapman	N. Davis	N. Davis	281.367.2099
WEDNESDAYS	7:00 PM   9/9		7:00 PM   9/16		Church Email
SongLeading	D. Osteen		J. Chandler		<a href="mailto:woodlandchurchofchrist@gmail.com">woodlandchurchofchrist@gmail.com</a>
Invitation/Talk	H. Clark		D. Hooton		
Prayer	L. Cockrell		N. Shows		
Announcements	K. Arrants		N. Davis		