

# **Knowing Christ**

*A Study of Colossians*

**Life in Christ**

**Lesson 13-14**

**Colossians 3-4**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*

*April 9, 2020*

# The Development of the New Testament

Acts 1:8 "... and you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Acts 1-7  
33-34 AD

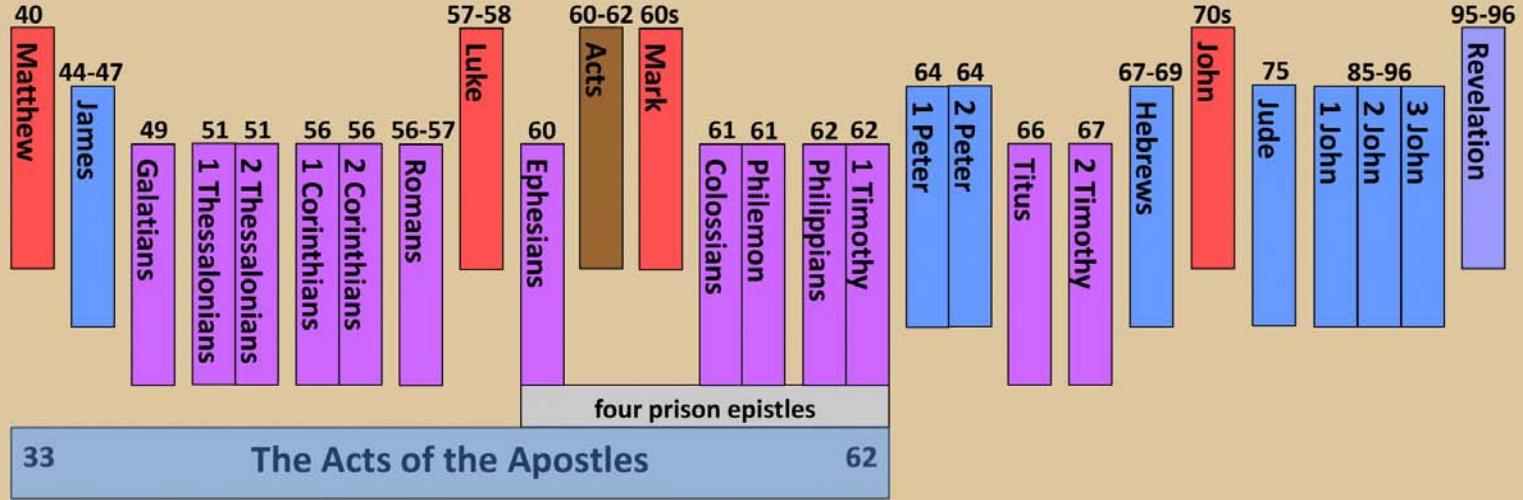
Acts 8-12  
35-47 AD

Acts 13-28 · 48-62 AD

- 48 AD · Acts 13-14 · 1<sup>st</sup> missionary journey
- 49 AD · Acts 15 · Jerusalem counsel
- 50-53 · Acts 16-18 · 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey
- 53-57 · Acts 18-21 · 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary journey
- 57-62 · Acts 22-28 · Roman prison #1
- 62-67 · release and ministry
- 67-75 · Roman prison #2



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# Knowing Christ

- ▶ Paul's ministry from the beginning
  - His call – to turn from persecuting Christ to serving Him (Acts 9:4-5)
  - His commission – to bear the name of Christ to the Gentiles (Acts 9:15)
  - His first message – Jesus is the Son of God, the Christ (Acts 9:20, 22)
  - The label given to disciples of his ministry – Christians (Acts 11:26)
- ▶ Paul's prison epistles emphasize the centrality of Jesus Christ in salvation
  - ▶ Ephesians – Summing up all things in Christ – the last word in revelation
    - The mystery revealed – Christ in you (Eph 1:10; 3:8-11)
    - The administration of the mystery revealed – the Church
  - ▶ Philippians – Life in Christ (Phil 1:21; 3:8-11)
  - ▶ Colossians – We are complete in Christ – do not be defrauded (1:28; 2:8)

# Colossians

Christ, our exalted Savior		prison epistle 60-62	
①	②	③	④
the supremacy of Christ		the sufficiency of Christ	
foundation in Christ	faithfulness to Christ	fullness in Christ	
<p>1-2 salutation in Christ</p> <p>3-8 thanksgiving to God</p> <p>9-12 intercession to God</p> <p>15-23 the preeminence of Christ</p> <p>24-29 the Gentile mystery: <i><u>"Christ in you, the hope of glory"</u></i></p>	<p>1-5 stability of faith in Christ</p> <p>6-7 <i><u>"walk in Christ!"</u></i></p> <p>8-15 standing firm in the victory in Christ</p> <p>16-19 holding firm to the substance of Christ</p> <p>20-23 submitting only to the person of Christ</p>	<p>1-4 <i><u>"set your mind on Christ!"</u></i></p> <p>5-11 attend to personal holiness in Christ <i><u>"Christ is all, and in all."</u></i></p> <p>12-17 attend to corporate harmony in Christ</p> <p>18-4:1 attend to outward behavior in Christ</p>	<p>2-6 devotion to prayer, conduct with wisdom, speech with grace</p> <p>7-9 coming information</p> <p>10-15 sent greetings</p> <p>16-18 final words</p>

# Colossians Outline

- ▶ Focus on the Gospel (Colossians 1)
  - The Christian testimony of the Colossians (1:1-8)
  - Paul's desire for the progress in the Gospel (1:9-14)
  - Paul presents Jesus Christ – His Person and Work (1:15-23)
  - Paul the apostle – present everyone complete in Christ (1:24-29)
- ▶ Addressing the deception or fraud (Colossians 2)
  - Empty deception, traditions of men, basic principles of the world
  - Emphasis upon our union with Christ in His death and resurrection
- ▶ Focusing on life in Christ as a true believer (Colossians 3-4)

# Life in Christ (Colossians 3-4)

*“Christ in you, the hope of glory.” (1:27)*

- ▶ A mind set on Christ (3:1-4)
- ▶ Put off the old self (3:5-11)
- ▶ Put on the new self (3:12-17)
- ▶ Examples of the new life (3:18-4:1)
- ▶ Examples of new life ministry (4:2-18)

# A Mind Set on Christ (3:1-4)

- ▶ Union with Christ in His resurrection – Christ is your life – Romans 6:1-7
- ▶ Keep seeking things above – Set your mind on things above
- ▶ Your life is hid with Christ in God
- ▶ The prize – to be revealed with Christ in His glory
- ▶ Deception – the fraud of any alternative or addition
- ▶ Hold fast to the head (2:19)

# Put Off the Old Self (3:5-11)

- ▶ Consider the members of your earthly body as dead . . .
- ▶ Sons of disobedience and under wrath
  - Members of your earthly body – governing principles (3:5)
  - Manner of your life – external manifestations (3:8-9)
- ▶ Put on the new self – renewed within
  - True knowledge according to Christ
  - Unrelated to prior character – Christ is all, and in all
- ▶ Keep seeking . . . and set your mind . . . on things above

# Put On the New Self (3:12-17)

- ▶ Chosen of God, holy and beloved – the new knowledge
- ▶ A new heart (3:12-13) – treat one another as Christ treats us
- ▶ Love – the bond of unity
- ▶ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts
- ▶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly
  - Teach and admonish one another with wisdom
  - Singing with thankfulness in your heart to God
- ▶ Do all in the name of the Lord Jesus with thankfulness to God

# Examples of the New Life (3:18-4:1)

- ▶ Wives (3:18) – Be subject to your husband as is fitting in the Lord
- ▶ Husbands (3:19) – love your wife, and do not be bitter
- ▶ Children (3:20) – Obey parents in all things – it is well-pleasing to the Lord
- ▶ Fathers (3:21) – Do not exasperate your children so they do not lose heart
- ▶ Slaves (3:22-25) – Obey in all things as an act of service to God from the heart
- ▶ Masters (4:1) – Treat slaves with justice and fairness – remember your Master

# Examples of Ministry (4:2-18)

- ▶ Devoted to prayer (4:2-6)
- ▶ Wise conduct toward outsiders (4:5)
- ▶ Gracious speech (4:6)
- ▶ Paul's companions
  - Serving Paul and the Colossians
- ▶ Paul's greeting and prayer

# Life in Christ

- ▶ True Christianity – trusting Christ for completeness
  - His work of salvation
  - His life in us daily
- ▶ Knowing and growing in the knowledge of Jesus Christ
- ▶ Christ is our life – Christ in you, the hope of glory
- ▶ Do not be captured and defrauded of your prize
- ▶ Keep seeking the things above – set your mind on things above