

Study Guide

Philippians and Colossians

Lesson One

- 1) What was one of Philippi's claims to fame?
- 2) Philippi was a colony of Rome. What was significant about a city being a colony?
- 3) Lydia was a seller of purple. What do you believe was the significance of the scripture mentioning the color purple?
- 4) Where was Paul when he wrote to the Philippians?
- 5) Who was Epaphroditus and what was his mission?
- 6) Concerning Epaphroditus, why did Paul admonish the Philippians to "receive him with all joy?"
- 7) What were the three major purposes for the writing of the book of Philippians?
- 8) What is a reoccurring theme of the letter to the Philippians?
- 9) How was Paul's relationship to the church at Philippi different from his relationship with most of all the other churches?
- 10) Paul often opened his letter by stating, "Grace and peace..." What was the significance of this greeting?

Lesson Two

- 1) Paul stated that the things which happened to him actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel. What did he mean by that? How could being in prison allow him to further the gospel?
- 2) Paul said some preached the gospel out of envy and strife, and some out of love or goodwill. What was his conclusion concerning this?
- 3) Paul was convinced that the situation he found himself in would result in his salvation. Identify three things that would relate to salvation.
- 4) To Paul, to live was _____, to die _____.
- 5) Concerning life and death, Paul was caught between two desires. What was the conflict he was referring to?
- 6) "Let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ." Today, conversation meant "talk," but in the Latin, it meant something different. What did it mean in the Latin?
- 7) Paul said that the Philippians could fulfill his joy, how?
- 8) Identify three causes of disunity.
- 9) What is the cure of disunity?

Lesson Three

- 1) Paul said that we should let the same mind be in us as was also in Christ Jesus. What was he referring to?
- 2) How did Jesus make himself of no reputation?
- 3) Jesus humbled himself, yet because he did, God exalted him in what way?

- 4) Jesus was in the “form” of God. There are two words in the Greek which were translated “form.” One was *morphe* and the other was *schema*. What was the difference between the two?
- 5) In the end, every knee shall bow and every tongue would confess that Jesus is Lord. What do you think this implies?
- 6) We know that salvation is by faith and not by works, yet Paul said that we should “work” out our salvation with fear and trembling. What do you think this means?
- 7) Is salvation on our part or on God’s part?
- 8) Name three signs of salvation.
- 9) What was Paul’s relationship with Timothy?
- 10) Name three situations or places in the scripture where Timothy was with Paul.

Lesson Four

- 1) The emphasis of Paul’s writings in the first two chapters was positive and uplifting, but the tone of his writing changed in the beginning of chapter 3. What was the reason for the change of emphasis?
- 2) Paul said that the Philippians should beware of dogs. What did this mean?
- 3) Why were the Philippians to beware of the concision?
- 4) Circumcision was the cutting away of the flesh of a man. This physical act was a sign of covenant with God. What are the signs of “real” (New Testament) circumcision?
- 5) As a general rule, Paul was not given to boasting, but he exalts his credentials in this letter to the Philippians. Why did he do this?
- 6) What were some of the points of his credentials?
- 7) Zeal was an earmark of the Jews. Paul described himself as being zealous in what religious act or acts (before conversion)?
- 8) What is the importance of knowing Christ in the power of his resurrection?
- 9) What does it mean to know Christ in the fellowship of his sufferings?
- 10) When Paul speaks of pressing on toward perfection, what do you believe he was referring to?
- 11) What two things did Paul say that he had to do in order to attain unto what he was apprehended for?

Lesson Five

- 1) There were two categories of people in the Philippians Church who showed themselves to be the enemies of the Cross of Christ. What were these two categories?
- 2) What was expected of the Philippians since they were citizens of heaven?
- 3) What were the three great commands which Paul gives “in the Lord?”
- 4) According to Paul, _____ must be the universal accompaniment of prayer.
- 5) What are three things we should always remember when we pray?
- 6) Paul encourages the Philippians to think on positive things rather than negative. Name three things that should characterize the way we think.
- 7) If there be any _____, if there be any _____, think on these things.
- 8) What was Paul’s secret to true contentment?

- 9) In what way had the Philippian Church given practical proof of its love for Paul?
- 10) God shall supply _____ according to his _____.

Lesson Six

- 1) Name the three most important cities in the valley of the River Lycus which is about 100 miles from Ephesus.
- 2) What were two remarkable characteristics of the Lycus Valley?
- 3) Laodicea was a wealthy city. What was it famous for?
- 4) Why did Paul give such a high and lofty view of Jesus to the Colossian Church?
- 5) What was the essence of the Colossian Heresy?
- 6) What did Paul do or emphasize to counterattack this heresy?
- 7) Identify three elements in this heresy that Paul addresses.
- 8) Give two major beliefs of Gnosticism.
- 9) The Gnostic belief had an effect on the doctrine of creation. Explain how this was so. 10) Had Paul counterattacked this creation heresy?

Lesson Seven

Identify three essentials of the gospel.

- 1) What are two great requests that prayer makes?
- 2) Spiritual wisdom could be described as knowledge of first principles, but understanding is what the Greeks sometimes described as what?
- 3) Paul prays that his friends may possess all fortitude, patience, and joy. Patience means not only the ability to bear things, but the ability to _____.
- 4) We have been qualified to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints, and God has transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son. This transference is from one dominion to another. Name three transferences that Paul mentions in the first chapter of Colossians.
- 5) What was the Gnostics reasoning that led them to believe that the true God could not be an agent of creation, that the creator was hostile to God?
- 6) What was Jesus' role in creation?
- 7) The Gnostics believed that the Christianity Paul preached was too simple. Why did they believe this?
- 8) Paul's aim was to warn every man and to teach every man, and so to present every man mature in Christ Jesus. In light of the Gnostic heresy, why did Paul emphasize *all* men?
- 9) What does it mean to us for Jesus to be considered the image of God and the fullness of God in bodily form?

Lesson Eight

- 1) What is Jesus' relationship to the Church?

- 2) The object of Jesus' coming was _____. He came to heal the breach between God and man.
- 3) The medium of reconciliation was _____.
- 4) The mystery which had been hidden from ages has now been revealed to His saints, which is _____.
- 5) Why was it important that Jesus was the firstborn from among the dead?
- 6) Paul's prayer for the church distinguishes the great marks of a living and faithful church. Name three distinguishing marks that Paul addressed.
- 7) The Church should be equipped with every kind of wisdom. This is the ability to _____.
- 8) According to Paul, all wisdom is hidden in Christ. How did this statement counteract the Gnostics' belief that wisdom was only for a few select intellectuals?
- 9) As you have received Christ, so walk in Him, _____ in Him and established in the faith—abounding in it with _____.
- 10) If Paul did not ever visit the Church at Colosse, what do you believe was his right to speak into their lives?

Lesson 9

- 1) The false teachers wished the Colossians to accept what can only be called additions to Christ. Name five additions they wished to make.
- 2) What is meant by "in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily?"
- 3) As a result of Jesus being the fullness of God, we are _____.
- 4) What is "circumcision made without hands?"
- 5) What were the handwriting of requirements that were nailed to the cross?
- 6) Jesus made a public spectacle of principalities and powers. What was a reference to in the customs of the time?
- 7) What significance does this have for us today?
- 8) Food, drink, observance of festivals are _____ of things to come, but the substance (reality) is _____.
- 9) What is Paul speaking of when he refers to "touch not, taste not, handle not?"
- 10) Why was the worship of angels considered part of the heathen culture?
- 11) Christian freedom comes not from restraining desires by rules and regulations but from _____.

Lesson 10

- 1) What is baptism a symbolism of?
- 2) If we were raised with Christ, we are to seek _____.
- 3) Seeking those things that are above means what?
- 4) Paul said that we are to mortify the flesh. What does this mean?
- 5) What are some of things that we are to cut out of our lives as the result of mortification?

- 6) What is the difference between anger and temper?
- 7) We're not only to "take off" but also to "put on." What are some of the things that we are to put on?
- 8) Name three barriers that Christianity destroyed.
- 9) What is "gentleness?"
- 10) What is the bond of perfection?

Lesson 11

- 1) What are wives commanded to do in relation to their husbands?
- 2) What is commanded of men?
- 3) What is commanded of children?
- 4) Whatever we do, we do it _____.
- 5) The really new thing about the Christian ethic of personal relationships is _____.
- 6) Being vigilant in prayer means _____.
- 7) "Redeeming the time" has been generally described as "making good use of your time. There is probably a better description. In light of what is meant by redemption, what does "redeeming the time mean?"
- 8) What do you think "walking in wisdom toward those who are outside" means?
- 9) Paul mentions several names at the end of the book of Colossians. What were each of the following noted for?
 - a) Tychicus
 - b) Onesimus
- 10) What was Mark's contribution to the ministry of Paul?

Lesson 12

Review