

# Colossians

**1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

**2** To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colosse: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**3** We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

**4** since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints;

**5** because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel,

**6** which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth;

**7** as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf,

**8** who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.

**9** For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with

the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

**10** that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

**11** strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

**12** giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

**13** He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

**14** in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

**15** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

**16** For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

**17** And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

**18** And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the

firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

<sup>19</sup> For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell,

<sup>20</sup> and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

<sup>21</sup> And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled

<sup>22</sup> in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight--

<sup>23</sup> if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

<sup>24</sup> I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,

<sup>25</sup> of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God,

<sup>26</sup> the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.

<sup>27</sup> To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this

mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

<sup>28</sup> Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

<sup>29</sup> To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

**2** For I want you to know what a great conflict I have for you and those in Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh,

<sup>2</sup> that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ,

<sup>3</sup> in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

<sup>4</sup> Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words.

<sup>5</sup> For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

<sup>6</sup> As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

<sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

<sup>9</sup>For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;

<sup>10</sup>and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

<sup>11</sup>In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,

<sup>12</sup>buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

<sup>13</sup>And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,

<sup>14</sup>having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

<sup>15</sup>Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

<sup>16</sup>So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths,

<sup>17</sup>which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

<sup>18</sup>Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,

<sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.

<sup>20</sup>Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations--

<sup>21</sup>"Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,"

<sup>22</sup>which all concern things which perish with the using--according to the commandments and doctrines of men?

<sup>23</sup>These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.

**3**If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

<sup>2</sup>Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

<sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

<sup>4</sup>When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

<sup>6</sup>Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience,

<sup>7</sup>in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

<sup>8</sup>But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

<sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,

<sup>10</sup>and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

<sup>11</sup>where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;

<sup>13</sup>bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

<sup>14</sup>But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

<sup>15</sup>And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

<sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

<sup>18</sup>Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

<sup>19</sup>Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.

<sup>20</sup>Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

<sup>22</sup>Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God.

<sup>23</sup>And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,

<sup>24</sup>knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

<sup>25</sup>But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.

**4** Masters, give your bondservants what is just and fair, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

<sup>2</sup>Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;

<sup>3</sup>meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains,

<sup>4</sup>that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

<sup>5</sup>Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time.

<sup>6</sup>Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

<sup>7</sup>Tychicus, a beloved brother, faithful minister, and fellow servant in the Lord, will tell you all the news about me.

<sup>8</sup>I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that he may know your circumstances and comfort your hearts,

<sup>9</sup>with Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will make known to you all things which are happening here.

<sup>10</sup>Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, with Mark the cousin of Barnabas (about whom you received instructions: if he comes to you, welcome him),

<sup>11</sup>and Jesus who is called Justus. These are my only fellow workers for the kingdom of God who are of the circumcision; they have proved to be a comfort to me.

<sup>12</sup>Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

<sup>13</sup>For I bear him witness that he has a great zeal for you, and those who are in Laodicea, and those in Hierapolis.

<sup>14</sup>Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you.

<sup>15</sup>Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea, and Nympha and the church that is in his house.

<sup>16</sup>Now when this epistle is read among you, see that it is read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and that you likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.

<sup>17</sup>And say to Archippus, "Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it."

<sup>18</sup>This salutation by my own hand--Paul. Remember my chains. Grace be with you. Amen.

# 1st Thessalonians

**1** Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**2** We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers,

**3** remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father,

**4** knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.

**5** For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.

**6** And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit,

**7** so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe.

**8** For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.

**9** For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,

**10** and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

**2** For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain.

**2** But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict.

**3** For our exhortation did not come from error or uncleanness, nor was it in deceit.

**4** But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.

**5** For neither at any time did we use flattering words, as you know, nor a cloak for covetousness--God is witness.

**6** Nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ.

<sup>7</sup>But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children.

<sup>8</sup>So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.

<sup>9</sup>For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God.

<sup>10</sup>You are witnesses, and God also, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe;

<sup>11</sup>as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children,

<sup>12</sup>that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

<sup>13</sup>For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

<sup>14</sup>For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they did from the Judeans,

<sup>15</sup>who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they do not please God and are contrary to all men,

<sup>16</sup>forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they may be saved, so as always to fill up the measure of their sins; but wrath has come upon them to the uttermost.

<sup>17</sup>But we, brethren, having been taken away from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored more eagerly to see your face with great desire.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore we wanted to come to you--even I, Paul, time and again--but Satan hindered us.

<sup>19</sup>For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?

<sup>20</sup>For you are our glory and joy.

**3**Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone,

<sup>2</sup>and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith,

<sup>3</sup>that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this.

<sup>4</sup>For, in fact, we told you before when we were with you that we would suffer tribulation, just as it happened, and you know.

<sup>5</sup>For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter had tempted you, and our labor might be in vain.

<sup>6</sup>But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always have good remembrance of us, greatly desiring to see us, as we also to see you--

<sup>7</sup>therefore, brethren, in all our affliction and distress we were comforted concerning you by your faith.

<sup>8</sup>For now we live, if you stand fast in the Lord.

<sup>9</sup>For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God,

<sup>10</sup>night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith?

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you.

<sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you,

<sup>13</sup>so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God

and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

**4**Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God;

<sup>2</sup>for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

<sup>3</sup>For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality;

<sup>4</sup>that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

<sup>5</sup>not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

<sup>6</sup>that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified.

<sup>7</sup>For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.

<sup>8</sup>Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

<sup>9</sup>But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another;

<sup>10</sup>and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more;

<sup>11</sup>that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you,

<sup>12</sup>that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.

<sup>13</sup>But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

<sup>14</sup>For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

<sup>15</sup>For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.

<sup>16</sup>For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

<sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**5**But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you.

<sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.

<sup>3</sup>For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

<sup>4</sup>But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.

<sup>5</sup>You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.

<sup>6</sup>Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.

<sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night.

<sup>8</sup>But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.

<sup>9</sup>For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

<sup>10</sup>who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

<sup>11</sup>Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

<sup>12</sup>And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,

<sup>13</sup>and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.

<sup>14</sup>Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.

<sup>15</sup>See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.

<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always,

<sup>17</sup>pray without ceasing,

<sup>18</sup>in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

<sup>19</sup>Do not quench the Spirit.

<sup>20</sup>Do not despise prophecies.

<sup>21</sup>Test all things; hold fast what is good.

<sup>22</sup>Abstain from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup>Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>24</sup>He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

<sup>25</sup>Brethren, pray for us.

<sup>26</sup>Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.

<sup>27</sup>I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read to all the holy brethren.

<sup>28</sup>The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

# 2nd Thessalonians

**1** Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

**2** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**3** We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other,

**4** so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure,

**5** which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer;

**6** since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you,

**7** and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,

**8** in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**9** These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

**10** when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

**11** Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power,

**12** that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**2** Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you,

**2** not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.

**3** Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,

**4** who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

<sup>5</sup>Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?

<sup>6</sup>And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time.

<sup>7</sup>For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.

<sup>8</sup>And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

<sup>9</sup>The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,

<sup>10</sup>and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

<sup>11</sup>And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,

<sup>12</sup>that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

<sup>13</sup>But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,

<sup>14</sup>to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>15</sup>Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.

<sup>16</sup>Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace,

<sup>17</sup>comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.

**3**Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you,

<sup>2</sup>and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith.

<sup>3</sup>But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.

<sup>4</sup>And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you.

<sup>5</sup>Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

<sup>6</sup>But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us.

<sup>7</sup>For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you;

<sup>8</sup>nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you,

<sup>9</sup>not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us.

<sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.

<sup>11</sup>For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies.

<sup>12</sup>Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.

<sup>13</sup>But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.

<sup>14</sup>And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed.

<sup>15</sup>Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

<sup>16</sup>Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all.

<sup>17</sup>The salutation of Paul with my own hand, which is a sign in every epistle; so I write.

<sup>18</sup>The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

# 1st Timothy

**1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ, our hope,

**2** To Timothy, a true son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

**3** As I urged you when I went into Macedonia--remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine,

**4** nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith.

**5** Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith,

**6** from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk,

**7** desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.

**8** But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully,

**9** knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers

and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,

**10** for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurors, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine,

**11** according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.

**12** And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,

**13** although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

**14** And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

**15** This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

**16** However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

**17** Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>18</sup>This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,

<sup>19</sup>having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck,

<sup>20</sup>of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.

**2**Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,

<sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

<sup>3</sup>For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

<sup>4</sup>who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

<sup>5</sup>For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,

<sup>7</sup>for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle--I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying--a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

<sup>8</sup>I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;

<sup>9</sup>in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing,

<sup>10</sup>but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.

<sup>11</sup>Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.

<sup>12</sup>And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.

<sup>13</sup>For Adam was formed first, then Eve.

<sup>14</sup>And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.

<sup>15</sup>Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.

**3**This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work.

<sup>2</sup>A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach;

<sup>3</sup>not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous;

<sup>4</sup>one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence

<sup>5</sup>(for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);

<sup>6</sup>not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.

<sup>7</sup>Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

<sup>8</sup>Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money,

<sup>9</sup>holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience.

<sup>10</sup>But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless.

<sup>11</sup>Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things.

<sup>12</sup>Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

<sup>13</sup>For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good

standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

<sup>14</sup>These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

<sup>15</sup>but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

<sup>16</sup>And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

**4**Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

<sup>2</sup>speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

<sup>3</sup>forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

<sup>4</sup>For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving;

<sup>5</sup>for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

<sup>6</sup>If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of

faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.

<sup>7</sup> But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness.

<sup>8</sup> For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

<sup>9</sup> This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.

<sup>10</sup> For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.

<sup>11</sup> These things command and teach.

<sup>12</sup> Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

<sup>13</sup> Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

<sup>14</sup> Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

<sup>15</sup> Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

<sup>16</sup> Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

**5** Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers,

<sup>2</sup> older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, with all purity.

<sup>3</sup> Honor widows who are really widows.

<sup>4</sup> But if any widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show piety at home and to repay their parents; for this is good and acceptable before God.

<sup>5</sup> Now she who is really a widow, and left alone, trusts in God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day.

<sup>6</sup> But she who lives in pleasure is dead while she lives.

<sup>7</sup> And these things command, that they may be blameless.

<sup>8</sup> But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

<sup>9</sup> Do not let a widow under sixty years old be taken into the number, and not unless she has been the wife of one man,

<sup>10</sup> well reported for good works: if she has brought up children, if she has lodged strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has relieved the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work.

<sup>11</sup>But refuse the younger widows; for when they have begun to grow wanton against Christ, they desire to marry,

<sup>12</sup>having condemnation because they have cast off their first faith.

<sup>13</sup>And besides they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house, and not only idle but also gossips and busybodies, saying things which they ought not.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

<sup>15</sup>For some have already turned aside after Satan.

<sup>16</sup>If any believing man or woman has widows, let them relieve them, and do not let the church be burdened, that it may relieve those who are really widows.

<sup>17</sup>Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.

<sup>18</sup>For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer is worthy of his wages."

<sup>19</sup>Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses.

<sup>20</sup>Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear.

<sup>21</sup>I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality.

<sup>22</sup>Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself pure.

<sup>23</sup>No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities.

<sup>24</sup>Some men's sins are clearly evident, preceding them to judgment, but those of some men follow later.

<sup>25</sup>Likewise, the good works of some are clearly evident, and those that are otherwise cannot be hidden.

**6**Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed.

<sup>2</sup>And those who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things.

<sup>3</sup>If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness,

<sup>4</sup>he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments

over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions,

<sup>5</sup>useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself.

<sup>6</sup>Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

<sup>7</sup>For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

<sup>8</sup>And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

<sup>9</sup>But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

<sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

<sup>11</sup>But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.

<sup>12</sup>Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

<sup>13</sup>I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ

Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate,

<sup>14</sup>that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing,

<sup>15</sup>which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords,

<sup>16</sup>who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.

<sup>17</sup>Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

<sup>18</sup>Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share,

<sup>19</sup>storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

<sup>20</sup>O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge--

<sup>21</sup>by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. Grace be with you. Amen.

# 2nd Timothy

**1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus,

**2**To Timothy, a beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

**3**I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day,

**4**greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy,

**5**when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

**6**Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

**7**For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

**8**Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God,

**9**who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,

**10**but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

**11**to which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.

**12**For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

**13**Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

**14**That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.

**15**This you know, that all those in Asia have turned away from me, among whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes.

**16**The Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain;

<sup>17</sup>but when he arrived in Rome, he sought me out very zealously and found me.

<sup>18</sup>The Lord grant to him that he may find mercy from the Lord in that Day--and you know very well how many ways he ministered to me at Ephesus.

**2** You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

<sup>2</sup> And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

<sup>3</sup> You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

<sup>5</sup> And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.

<sup>6</sup> The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops.

<sup>7</sup> Consider what I say, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things.

<sup>8</sup> Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel,

<sup>9</sup>for which I suffer trouble as an evildoer, even to the point of chains; but the word of God is not chained.

<sup>10</sup>Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

<sup>11</sup>This is a faithful saying: For if we died with Him, We shall also live with Him.

<sup>12</sup>If we endure, We shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us.

<sup>13</sup>If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

<sup>14</sup>Remind them of these things, charging them before the Lord not to strive about words to no profit, to the ruin of the hearers.

<sup>15</sup>Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

<sup>16</sup>But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness.

<sup>17</sup>And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort,

<sup>18</sup>who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.

<sup>19</sup> Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

<sup>20</sup> But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor.

<sup>21</sup> Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

<sup>22</sup> Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

<sup>23</sup> But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife.

<sup>24</sup> And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,

<sup>25</sup> in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth,

<sup>26</sup> and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

**3** But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

<sup>2</sup> For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

<sup>3</sup> unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,

<sup>4</sup> traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

<sup>5</sup> having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

<sup>6</sup> For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts,

<sup>7</sup> always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

<sup>8</sup> Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith;

<sup>9</sup> but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was.

<sup>10</sup> But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance,

<sup>11</sup> persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra--what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me.

<sup>12</sup>Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

<sup>13</sup>But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

<sup>14</sup>But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them,

<sup>15</sup>and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

<sup>16</sup>All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

<sup>17</sup>that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

**4**I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

<sup>2</sup>Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

<sup>3</sup>For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

<sup>4</sup>and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

<sup>5</sup>But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

<sup>6</sup>For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand.

<sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

<sup>9</sup>Be diligent to come to me quickly;

<sup>10</sup>for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica--Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia.

<sup>11</sup>Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry.

<sup>12</sup>And Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.

<sup>13</sup>Bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas when you come--and the books, especially the parchments.

<sup>14</sup>Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm. May the Lord repay him according to his works.

<sup>15</sup>You also must beware of him, for he has greatly resisted our words.

<sup>16</sup>At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them.

<sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that the message might be preached fully through me, and that all the Gentiles might hear. Also I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

<sup>18</sup>And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!

<sup>19</sup>Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.

<sup>20</sup>Erastus stayed in Corinth, but Trophimus I have left in Miletus sick.

<sup>21</sup>Do your utmost to come before winter. Eubulus greets you, as well as Pudens, Linus, Claudia, and all the brethren.

<sup>22</sup>The Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Grace be with you. Amen.

# Titus

**1** Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness,

**2** in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

**3** but has in due time manifested His word through preaching, which was committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior;

**4** To Titus, a true son in our common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior.

**5** For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you--

**6** if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination.

**7** For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money,

**8** but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled,

**9** holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.

**10** For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision,

**11** whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain.

**12** One of them, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."

**13** This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith,

**14** not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth.

**15** To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.

**16** They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.

**2** But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine: