

BI - 303 The Prison Epistles
Tuesday // Church Auditorium // Time: 6:30 – 8:30 pm
January 26th – March 2nd

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I. Course Description

This course will cover, in detail, four books the apostle Paul wrote while on house arrest in Rome: Ephesians, Colossians, Philippians, and Philemon. The letters that God used Paul to send to these people are letters of great encouragement and understanding of God's desire for believers in this dispensation of grace. In each book you will study the setting and cultural surroundings of the people who received the letter, the purpose or theme of the letter, and the doctrinal teaching and/or application for us today. By the end of this course you will have a firm understanding of the teaching found within these four books.

II. Course Objectives

- a. Students will be able to identify key verses for each book that support the overall theme of the book.
- b. Students will be able to identify the purpose behind each letter.
- c. Students will have a better understanding of the main point in each chapter.
- d. Students will gain an understanding of the doctrinal application for today.
- e. Students will be able to identify the false teaching in today's culture as it relates to the false teaching that is covered within the prison epistles.

III. Required Textbook - The Bible (King James Version)

IV. Course Requirements

- a. Taking of four tests
- b. Taking of cumulative final
- c. Completing class project
- d. Completing class reading

V. Grading System

- a. Four tests.....60%
- b. Final exam.....20%
- c. Class project.....15%
- d. Reading.....5%

VI. Class Project

All students will select one person who is named in any of Paul's prison epistles and type a 400 - 600 word paper explaining why and how they feel this person was valuable to Paul's prison ministry.

Questions to consider:

- How did he/she help Paul while Paul was imprisoned?
- How did he/she come to know Paul?
- Did he/she serve with Paul before his imprisonment? How?

- What can believers today learn from his/her ministry with Paul?

VII. Course Outline (6 two hour classes)

Session 1

Class expectations

Overview of Paul's imprisonment and key people in the prison epistles

Break

Ephesians 1 & 2

Homework: Reading assignment; Class project: Due on session 6

Session 2

Test # 1

Ephesians 3

Break

Ephesians 4 & 5

Homework: Reading assignment

Session 3

Test # 2

Ephesians 6

Break

Philippians 1 & 2

Homework: Reading assignment

Session 4

Test # 3

Philippians 3

Break

Philippians 4 & Colossians 1

Homework: Reading assignment

Session 5

Test # 4

Colossians 2

Break

Colossians 3 & 4

Homework: Reading assignment

Session 6 - Final Exam

Turn in class project

Philemon

Review

Final exam

VIII. Attendance Policy

Attendance will be taken at every class and will be recorded. Students are only allowed one absence since this course only has six classes. Tests can be made up by coordinating with the teacher.